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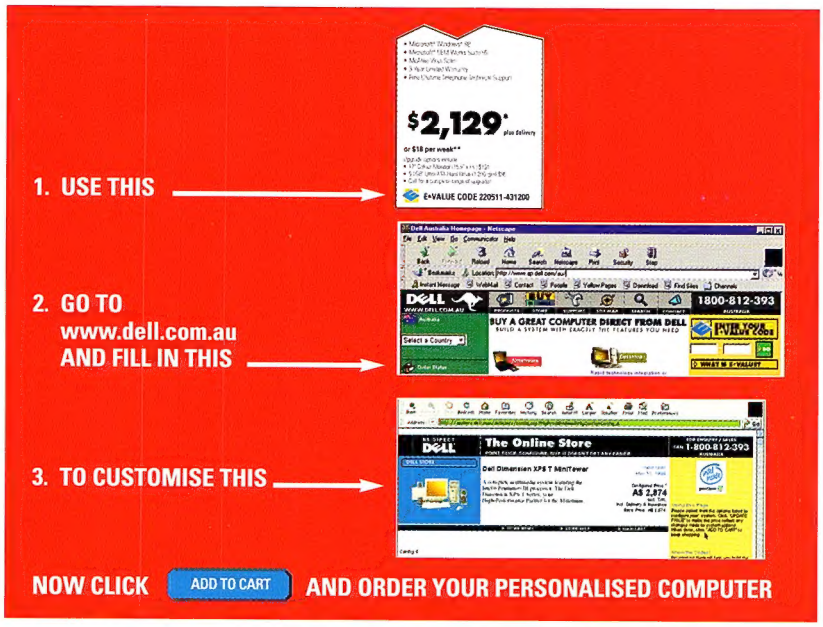

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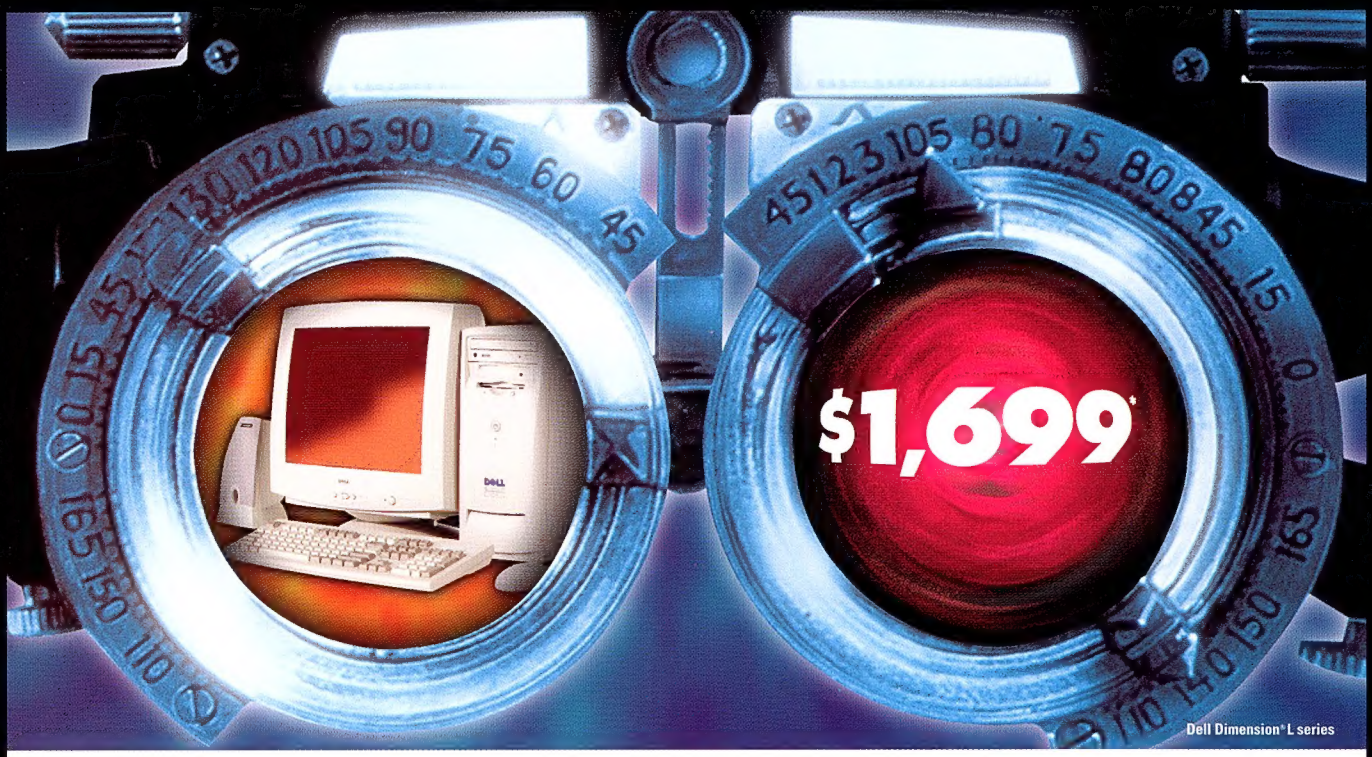

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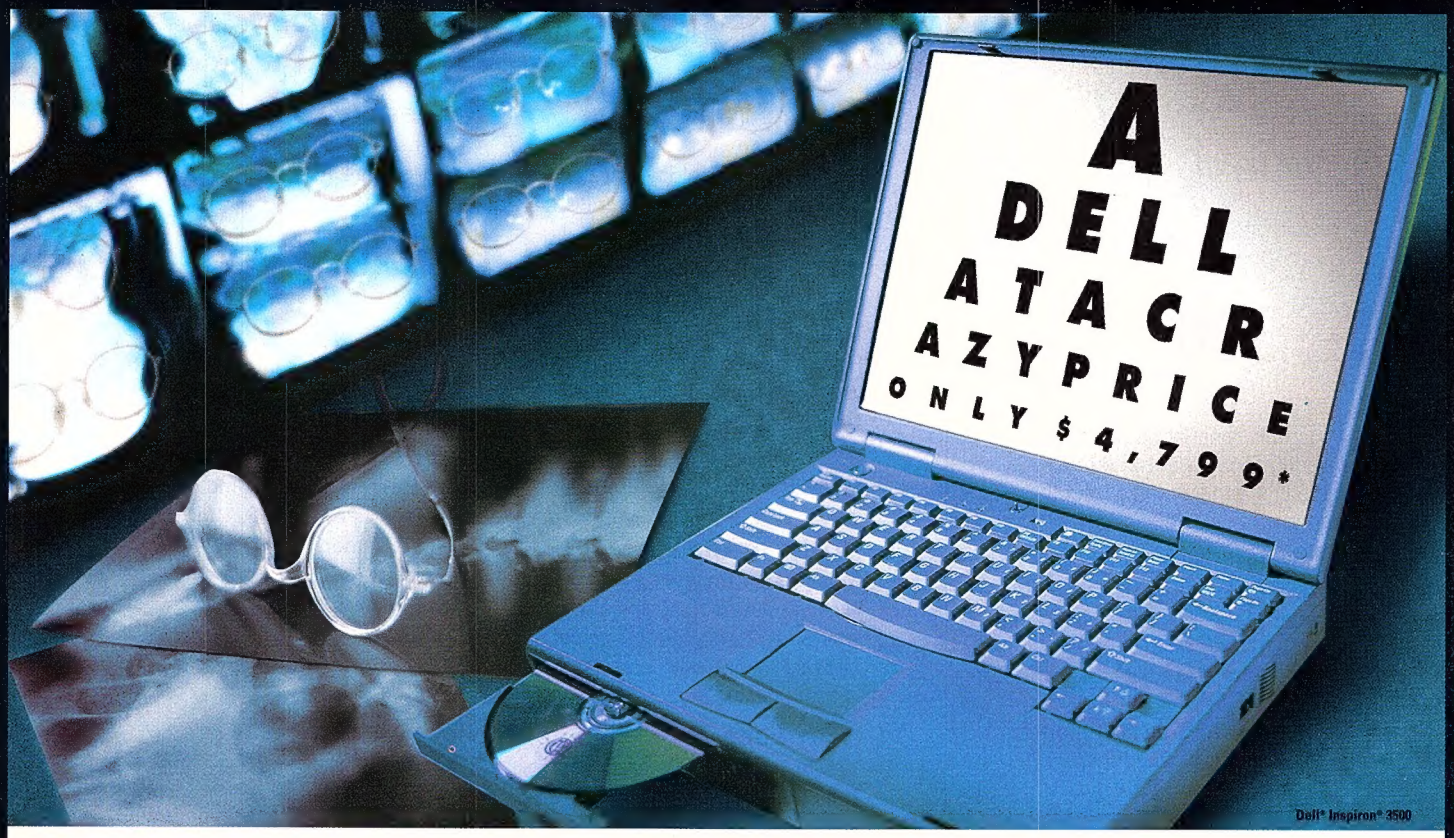

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- Microsoft® Windows® 98
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The competition closes August 31st, 1999. The winning entry will be judged on September 3rd, 1999 by the editor and publisher of PC World. The winner will be notified by phone and their name published in PC World, October 1999.

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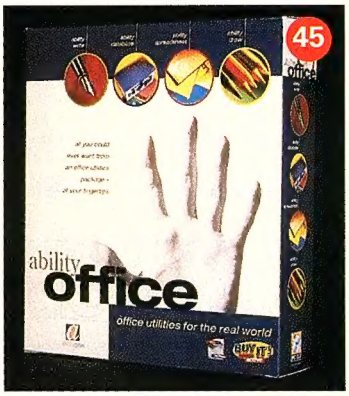

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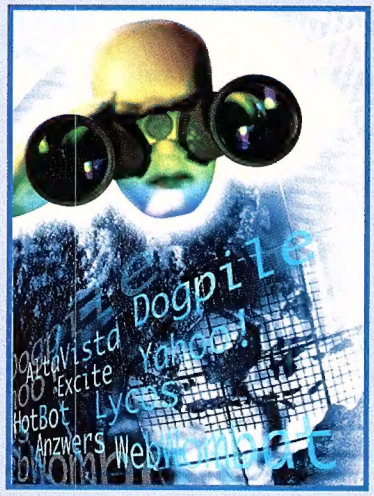

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Adobe PageMaker 6.5, iGrafx Business, Norton Antivirus 5.0, Norton Cleansweep 4.0

Browsers
Netscape Communicator 4.6, Navigator 4.08
Internet Explorer 5 for Windows 95/98/NT

Patches & Packs
NEW: Windows 95 Y2K patch, Service Pack 5 for Windows NT 4, IomegaWare Tools 1.1.3, Microsoft Intellimouse Driver 2.2
Plus: Eudora 4.1 Patch, MS Office 97 Patch SR-1, MS Office 97 Patch SR-2a, Photoshop 5.02 upgrade patch, Windows 98 Y2K patch, WordPerfect 8 Service Pack 5

ISP KITS
HotKey, AOL

Games
Quake3: Arena (test version 1.05), Street Car GT, X-Wing Alliance

Top shareware
Best Free Stuff On-line
Aladdin Expander 5.0, Alexa, BCWipe, Copernic99, Diskdata, ICQ, Keep It Alive, MaPlay 1.2, Mem Viewer, Microsoft Chat 2, Microsoft v-chat 2.5, NetSonic 1.02, Norton 2000 BIOS Test and Fix, PowerToys for Windows 95, PrintKey, RealPlayer G2 Update 2, WebFerret

Essentials
Acrobat Reader 4, Arachnophilia 3.9, AtGuard, Check 2000 Lite, CuteFTP 2.8, DirectX 6.1, Eudora Light 3.06, Final Reality Benchmark 1.01, GetRight 3.3.3, ICQ 99a (ver 2.2), Paint Shop Pro 5.01, Quicktime 3.0, RealPlayer G2 Update 2, Visual Basic Runtime Files, WinZip 7

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Over 1800 tips plus July issue programs:
Adarus Business Plan, Analyse-It, Cell Watch 97, Crystal Ball, Diskeeper Lite, Edwins Power Tools, Excel Recovery, FAT32, Interval Solver and Calculator, Enhanced Data Form, Office 97 Unique Identifier Patch, Office 97 Unique Identifier Removal Tool, Power Utility Pak, PPP Shar Lite, Sound-Proof, Spinnaker Add-ins, Spreadsheet Detective, The Spreadsheet Assistant, XLStat 4.0

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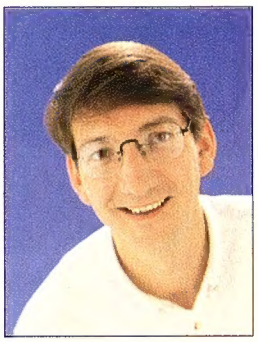

Gadget man

No one can accurately predict the role of computers in ten years' time. But that doesn't prevent many thousands of "experts" from trying. Opinions on the future of IT are ten a penny and plenty of consultants have made fortunes on the strength of uninspired guesswork. A few people, however, are uniquely placed to comment on our computing future, because they are playing an important part in creating it. One such man is Phil Hester. As IBM's chief technology officer, Hester is responsible for the technology strategy of Big Blue's personal systems group. He is, in his own words, a "total geek", but he's a geek with exceptional influence.

On a recent visit to Australia, Hester set out his vision of the future and described how his company would help to make it happen. He believes that Moore's Law (the principle that processing power doubles every 18-24 months) will continue to apply for many years to come, though he admits that numerous technical challenges will need to be overcome to maintain this rate of development.

IBM has invested $US5.5 billion in R & D and last year had close to 3000 US patents issued, three times as many as its closest competitor. So in the race to develop the next Big Thing (whatever that may be) IBM should be confident of a medal position. However, as Hester freely admits, technology development is a process of trial and error, and big budgets and talented engineers are no guarantee of success. For every successful innovation, there are countless others that flopped, many of them very expensively. Remember the Apple Newton? Neither do I. How about Motorola's Marco? That was a wireless handheld device that sank without trace a couple of years ago. For the technology creator, the goal, obviously, is to generate plenty of PalmPilots and minimise the Apple Newtons.

Some of IBM's research projects, such as voice recognition software, have already achieved success in the marketplace. Others exist only as prototypes. One such example is the "wearable" computer, which Hester demonstrated in Sydney. This battery-powered device weighs a mere 300g and is controlled by a handheld trackpoint. A small headset incorporates a microphone and a display which, although tiny, seems expansive and quite readable when positioned a few centimetres from the eye.

Earlier this year, IBM's CEO Louis Gerstner declared (controversially) that the PC era was over. Hester doesn't think it is, though he acknowledges that the PC's role will change as its functions are supplemented by numerous other devices. Hester divides "non-PCs" into four categories. The first is PC companions — family message centres, cordless phones and handheld computers. Then there are PC interoperable devices, a category that encompasses thin servers, smart phones and intelligent organisers. A third category has no direct PC connection — set top boxes, game consoles, e-books etc. The fourth category covers embedded devices such as vending machines, home appliances and vehicle systems.

These categories already overlap to some extent, but Hester is attempting to draw all these devices together to create "intelligent personal environments" in which people can access information wherever they happen to be — in the office, in the home, or somewhere between the two. Hester envisions "home networks" that will connect a whole range of electronic devices to each other and to external networks.

Most of the technology required to realise this home networking vision already exists. Linking devices together to create intelligent self-regulating environments is a logical next step. But it will be interesting to see how consumers react to the concept. How many people are yearning for a sophisticated computer-driven home environment? Millions, perhaps, but for me, the prospect of an orchestra of intercommunicating gadgets regulating my lounge room is unnerving. And the thought of my household appliances — the fridge, the VCR, my electric carving knife — being controlled by a (Windows?) PC is frankly terrifying. As for the wearable computer . . . consumers may need some convincing.

Neville Clarkson

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Dialogue Box

Industry Watch

POLICING THE NET

By Beverley Head

One year from now the Federal Government hopes to have introduced a goods and services tax. Threatening its timetable is Tasmanian Senator Brian Harradine, who earlier this year held (and exercised) an effective veto over the new tax system.

At time of writing Prime Minister John Howard has to decide whether to deal with the Democrats (read no GST on food) or take the risk of a double dissolution. His Treasurer Peter Costello also has to work out how much sense the May budget actually makes if the Government isn't going to get its tax package through.

What's all this got to do with computing?

Quite a lot as it turns out.

First, the entire business sector is reeling from the combined effects of fixing the Y2K issue while preparing itself for the introduction of a GST (which will be even harder if food is excluded). Business is having to ensure its internal book-keeping systems are up to the task of tracking GST throughout the entire logistics trail, and that management information systems can provide the level of detail needed for executives to plan strategies which will best serve the business in a GST era.

Looming GST also means that purchasing decisions are being held off. PCs, for example, are likely to be significantly (read 22 per cent!) cheaper after the GST arrives, if they are being used for business, and about 12 per cent cheaper if for home use.

Organisations negotiating outsourcing on long-term service or leasing deals are having to ensure watertight clauses in their contracts which will cover them once the GST era dawns. All for a tax that may or may not be coming, and which may or may not be levied on all goods and services.

As if that wasn't enough uncertainty the Government wants to introduce an Internet policing system in the form of the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Online Services) Bill 1999. Communications Minister Senator Richard Alston has hotly denied that this was in any way intended to butter up Senator Harradine and grease the way to a GST and the sale of a second tranche of Telstra. Alston insists that he will push through the legislation regardless of Harradine's voting patterns.

In the Federal Budget, which was handed down three days before Harradine lobbed his GST bombshell, the Government allocated an additional $10.5 million of funding for the Australian Broadcasting Authority. Although some of that was to be allocated to help the ABA make the necessary transition to the digital broadcasting era, the bulk — $7 million — was earmarked for policing Internet censorship.

So the money's there well before the legislation (which in fact was the nature of the entire 1999 budget).

The thrust of Senator Alston's bill is that a complaints-based system be established and administered by the newly beefed up Australian Broadcasting Authority. The ABA could respond to justified complaints by demanding illegal or offensive material be removed from local Web servers. And an industry bill of conduct is proposed, and already supported by Telstra and OzEmail, which would call for local ISPs to filter out objectionable material from overseas. As long as this is "technically feasible and commercially viable" — the old piece of string issue which no doubt lawyers will gleefully debate.

Alston and Harradine are correct — it *is* hard not to be offended by some of the material which crowds out the Internet. But the material is truly global, and for one nation to attempt a unilateral filtration of material from all over the world located on hundreds of thousands of different servers risks slowing Internet access down to a level where local business cannot compete internationally in the nascent e-marketplace.

Australia and Senator Alston are Canute-like in their attempts to stem the Internet tide in a world where, for example, it was perfectly legal for Japanese individuals to generate and disseminate child pornography, even over the Internet, until May of this year.

Society certainly needs to accept responsibility for the nature of material which is available over the Internet, and the new anti child-pornography laws in Japan are a significant advance. But is it really acceptable to have the blue rinse brigade determining what is and is not offensive on the Internet, even via the ABA? Is it proper that Senator Harradine and his 0.002 per cent of the vote should tell the nation what's right for it, its children and its children's children?

■ *bmhead@ozemail.com.au*

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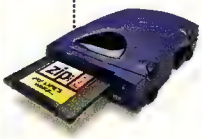

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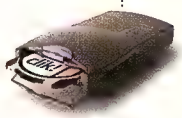

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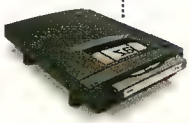

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Down to the Wire

MUSINGS ON THE YEAR 2000 CRISIS

By Nicholas Petreley

Some readers have pointed out that I haven't devoted significant attention to the year 2000 problem. In fact, I haven't addressed it at all. The fact is, I really have nothing useful to add to all those who have pontificated on this subject during the past few years.

But it came to my attention that I may have my pundit's licence revoked unless I address this vital issue. So this month I finally jump in, elbow first, beginning with what I consider to be the top three pea-brained ideas on how to deal with the Y2K problem.

3. Drink heavily and go into denial.

2. Add three more days to our weekend, making the weekend Saturday, Fatterday, Smatterday, Funday and Sunday. This gives us both a five-day work week and a five-day weekend.

The additional days will pad out the year and delay year 2000, giving us more time to fix problems. (Incidentally, Fatterday will be a traditional feast day. Smatterday is a day when we check on the welfare of friends and family. You are legally required to play games on Funday.)

1. Convert date reckoning to a hexadecimal system. That way, we won't have to deal with the Y2K turnover until the decimal year 8192, which is 2000 hexadecimal. Because the coming decimal year, 2000, is only 7D0 in hexadecimal, the switch will give us 1830 hexadecimal (6192 decimal) more years to work out the problems.

(Note to astute readers: I know that adding days to a weekend extends only leisure time, not work time. And the turnover point in hexadecimal takes place at the year 1A00, not 2000. But, hey, I did say these ideas were pea-brained.)

Following are the three problems most likely to be unfairly blamed on Y2K.

3. In a Y2K power outage, you discover your flashlight batteries are also dead.

2. Your hamster dies.

1. Your Windows NT server crashes.

Next are the three Y2K-related problems you are most likely to complain about after a Y2K failure.

3. Your VCR failed to tape the latest episode of Ally McBeal.

2. You microwaved a hot dog for one minute but the microwave ran for seven years.

1. Your mother-in-law wasn't on the plane.

And in case you are in the middle of a Y2K problem hunt, take heart. This isn't the first time such a problem occurred. I found the following anonymously penned historical report at various locations on the Internet.

"While browsing through some dust-covered archival material in the recesses of the Roman section of the British Museum, a researcher recently came across a tattered bit of parchment. After some effort, he translated it and found that it was a letter from a man called Plutonius with the title of *Magister Fastorium*, or keeper of the calendar, to one Cassius. It was dated, strangely enough, 2 B.C., Nov. 24. The text of the message follows.

'Dear Cassius,

'Are you still working on the Y0K problem? This change from B.C. to A.D. is giving us a lot of headaches and we haven't much time left. I don't know how people will cope with working the wrong way around. Having been working happily downward forever, now we have to start thinking upward. You would think that someone would have thought of it earlier and not left it to us to sort it all out at this last minute.

'I spoke to Caesar the other evening. He was livid that Julius hadn't done something about it when he was sorting out the calendar. He said he could see why Brutus turned nasty. We called in the consulting astrologers, but they simply said that continuing downward using minus B.C. won't work. As usual, the consultants charged a fortune for doing nothing useful.

'As for myself, I just can't see the sand in an hourglass flowing upward. We have heard that there are three wise men in the East who have been working on the problem, but unfortunately, they won't arrive until it's all over. Some say the world will cease to exist at the moment of transition.

'Anyway, we are still continuing to work on this blasted Y0K problem, and I will send you a parchment if anything further develops.

- Plutonius' "

Well, I guess that fulfils my responsibility towards opining about the potential Y2K crisis. What's your best tip?

■ *nicholas_petreley@infoworld.com*

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Itchy Feet

Y2K IN THE OLD DART

By Mark Stafford

It's England, and one wonders how a country that proudly holds a stodgy plate of fish and chips as its unofficial national dish can have had such an impact on world history. And what greater impact could there be than to be the arbiters of time itself, and therefore indirectly responsible for the year 2000 computer bug that will engulf the planet! Well, maybe not, but more about that later.

A disclaimer of sorts is required here: I am just about as fed up with Y2K bluster as you are. To paraphrase Winston Churchill, never have so many starving journalists written so many words on just one topic for the dubious interest of so few. However, it's the social and cultural aspects of a microprocessor performing just another date change that I find endlessly interesting. Peoples from many countries can feel rightly miffed that the end of this particular year is computing's D-Day, so to speak. The year 2000 AD (Anno Domini, the Year of Our Lord) or CE (Common Era) is well and good for countries of Christian heritage, but next year, for instance, the people of Thailand will celebrate the dawning of 2543 BE (Buddhist Era). In Japan it will be year 12 of Emperor Akihito's reign.

Similarly, Judaism and Hinduism have their own calendars. As the marketing brains push computing ever further into the mass market, one also wonders what the average "non-techy" citizen makes of the computer — the wonder that was meant to make their future easier. Now they are reading Los Angeles Times reports that 25 per cent of Americans intend to hoard food and water coming up to the end of this year, and 16 per cent will remove all their money from banks. They are reading that a US Senate panel has said that the arrival of the next millennium will probably not cause an accidental nuclear weapons launch (oh goody) but missile systems and other weapons in "other countries" could malfunction, and terrorists might attack US targets to take advantage of weakened security. While ardent computer users are gently pointing out that the millennium bug isn't really a "bug", strictly speaking, and the super-anal-retentive types are arguing that the next millennium doesn't start until 2001 anyway, I'm sure the PC newbie feels just fine and dandy with that Pentium time-bomb on the desk. They'll probably unplug it on December 31, just to make sure, and who can blame them.

You may be delighted or horrified to learn that every country I have traipsed through in the last five months has touted Australia (and New Zealand) as the place to spend New Year's Eve this year. Get as close as possible to the international dateline, and make that another three pints of lager, thanks love. And what are the Brits who stay at home for the new millennium going to do? They're erecting the biggest tent in the world. The "home of time", and hence the trigger for the next millennium, is the Old Royal Observatory in Greenwich, London, built in 1675 during the reign of Charles II. The Prime Meridian, longitude zero, runs through the courtyard of the Observatory and through the site of Britain's millennium project, the Millennium Dome — a bloody big tent filled with the sights and sounds of the next 1000 years.

The promotional video states most helpfully that the Dome is big enough to contain the Eiffel Tower on its side (a typical anti-Gallic sentiment from the Brits) or "3.8 billion pints of beer, costing significantly more than the Dome". Tony Blair does a voice-over for the vid: when the year ends, "the eyes of the world literally turn to where the millennium begins". Maybe not, Prime Minister, but when the Dome opens it will be an opportunity for visitors to lay down their £20 (about $A48) and wander through 15 zones designed to make them think about work, play, religion, national identity, education, health and much more in the next millennium. It might be a tad twee but it sounds better than the endless chip-gazing of the Y2K bug.

I'll leave you with this comforting thought — visitors to the Millennium Experience Web site (www.mx2000.co.uk) are invited to predict the technological advances of the next millennium. 0.9 per cent nominated thought-controlled computers and 3.1 per cent said robots and AI. However, 7.8 per cent said animals will talk and 10.6 per cent predicted men will have babies.

Make that another pint, thanks love.

■ *Mark Stafford can be reached (occasionally) at unharmed@hotmail.com*

P-POP is unique to Canon.

ESS · STOP PRESS · STOP PRESS · STO

New BJC-7100 has even more refined PhotoRealism, 25 tonal levels and the

plain paper advantage.

And that's only part of the story.

Because the BJC™-7100 also features water-fast printing, even on postcard type stock, is significantly faster than its predecessor in B&W and up to three times faster for photo quality colour.

But, like all Canon high definition Professional Resolution printers, the story begins with quality.

7-colour process. The BJC-7100 has a seven-colour printing process using both conventional CMYK inks, and lower density CMY inks, plus a new image processing system. The result is not self-styled "photo-printing," but a unique Canon PhotoRealism™ process.

More sophisticated colour in 25 tonal levels. The inks can be mixed and layered to produce up to 25 tonal levels with up to 90 times the colour combinations of traditional CMYK inks. The result is finer colour gradations, richer dark tones and hard to produce light shades are virtually free of pixelisation. So high quality paper produces images that are almost indistinguishable from photographic prints.

Professional Resolution
Ultra-High Definition.

Better plain paper performance. Then there is P-POP (Plain Paper Optimised Printing), a process unique to the new BJC-7100. It bonds an invisible Ink Optimiser to the paper before inks are applied. The inks, in turn, bond to the optimiser. Plain paper text and lines are better defined, colours are more vibrant, tones are sharper, and print-outs become virtually water fast.

P-POP™ Water Resistance

Better paper handling, full bleed A4. Better plain paper use can obviously lower operating costs. It accepts virtually all paper types from plain to high gloss photo paper, has the ability to print full-bleed A4 and even accepts card-stocks at paper-weights up 550 gsm (0.8MM).

Canon Customer Care. All Canon printers feature a one-year warranty, upgrade-able to three years for minimal cost, and are backed by Customer Care hot-line support. Drivers are available for Windows® 3.1x/95/98.

If you need high definition PhotoRealism, even on plain paper, you need the P-POP advantage. To learn more about the new BJC-7100, call us on 1 800 021 167.

Photo Realism™

New BJC-7100 – $599RRP

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Coffee Break

THE INTERNET'S LEGAL WILDERNESS

By Reg King

You placed your order over the Internet, paid by credit card and now you have received the goods. Only the goods are not up to the standard you expected. The supplier will not take the goods back nor are they interested in recompensing you.

Where does this leave you?

Normally, if the amount warranted it, you could take legal action under either the Sales of Goods Act or the Trade Practices Act. But do either of these Acts have jurisdiction? That is, do they apply in the country of the other party?

Where a sale takes place is an important consideration in deciding the appropriate jurisdiction. Let's examine this particular transaction. You placed your order from Australia with a company in the United States. The goods were provided from the company's warehouse in Singapore. Your credit card was banked to an account in Zurich across a server located in Amsterdam.

This is the vexing problem facing the international judiciary. What law applies to transactions conducted across the Internet? Current international law, in deciding on both jurisdiction and the appropriate law, looks to where the transaction occurred. But in the case of the Internet, "place" is irrelevant. There is no one owner of, or access point to, the Internet. There is no difference in doing business with someone in Wollongong than in Frankfurt. In most cases you can't be sure where the other party resides.

Jurisdiction is critical to your chances of success. Imagine if you were obliged to take an action in a country that didn't have any consumer laws? Similarly, the costs of mounting an action in an American court would be daunting, unless there was a substantial claim involved.

Some sites are attempting to clarify the position by having visitors to their site agree beforehand on jurisdiction. This is similar to the shrink-wrap licence procedure that accompanies most third-party software. Before getting access to the site, you acknowledge your willingness to be subject to the jurisdiction and laws nominated.

However, although this practice appears to have some acceptance, it also has a flaw. It is possible that some countries have laws that will prevent their constituents from accepting such conditions. This would void their apparent agreement, at the same time giving the other party a false sense of security.

This raises yet another question. Does the publishing of material on the Internet make the author liable to the laws of a particular jurisdiction? As an example, are all providers of pornography immediately liable to prosecution within those countries where pornography is illegal? When does material become within a country's jurisdiction? Is it when a communication originates, terminates or simply passes through? Or is it all three?

In its infancy the Internet was not designed for profit making, but for educational purposes. With its increasing use for e-commerce the problem for litigants has become obvious. It is another example of the world adjusting to the reality of a global community and finding itself continually playing catch-up.

Because ships sailed from country to country, over seas that no country owned, there grew a need for agreement between nations on disputes resolution. From such agreements grew a body of customs and usages that is the basis of today's Maritime Law. Sound familiar? The Internet takes us from country to country over space that no one nation owns. It is a completely new way of doing business, with its own specific terminology and etiquette. Maybe there is a need for a Cyber Law based on the customs and usages of the Internet? (If I have any readers out there who are part of the legal fraternity or students of the law, I would very much like your opinion on the above. I found it more than of passing interest.)

So when next you place an order over the Net, stop and think! You might be taking part in legal history!

■ *Reg King can be contacted on (02) 9873 1313, via e-mail at regking@ozemail.com.au, or you can write to 87 Murray Farm Road, Carlingford, NSW 2118*

1440 dpi
up to A3.
ESS · STOP PRESS · STOP PRESS · STO

1440 DPI, PhotoRealism, richer blacks, exceptional speed, plus

independent cartridges.

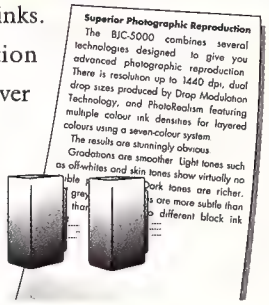
The idea of a dual cartridge system has existed for awhile. But needless to say, some systems are better than others. The new BJC™-5000 proves this point.

1440 dpi with variable ink drop sizes. Both the standard colour and optional PhotoRealism™ cartridges use Canon's Drop Modulation Technology™ with variable drop sizes in resolution up to 1440 dpi. The combination delivers smoother colour gradations and far less "grain" on virtually all paper types.

New dual-cartridge system enhances performance. Then, a special dual cartridge system lets both cartridges act independently to complement each other. In "split-page mode" identical black or colour cartridges can effectively double print speeds. Or, using different ink types you can produce exceptional quality effects, with the printer automatically identifying and using each cartridge for the desired result.

Professional Resolution
Ultra-High Definition.

90 times more colour combinations. For instance, PhotoRealism inks can be used with conventional inks for a seven-colour ink system, with multiple ink densities per pixel for up to 90 times the colour combinations of conventional CMYK inks. Combined with Drop Modulation Technology the result approaches silver halide quality reproduction.



Superior Photographic Reproduction
The BJC-5000 combines several technologies designed to give you advanced photographic reproduction. There is resolution up to 1440 dpi, dual drop sizes produced by Drop Modulation Technology, and PhotoRealism featuring multiple colour ink densities for layered colours using a seven-colour system. The results are stunningly obvious. Gradations are smoother. Light tones such as off-whites and skin tones show virtually no ... ble ... ork tones are richer. grey ... s are more subtle than than ... different black ink

An all-new approach to black. It uses new, black ink that is blacker than conventional ink. As a result, black & white documents have an exceptionally high degree of finish. Two of these cartridges (BC-23) are included in the box, and may be used simultaneously.

Independent print heads can halve print time.

Print up to A3. Both standard and PhotoRealism inks may be used on all A4 paper types. It will also print up to A3, and supports banner printing to the equivalent length of 6 A4 pages.

Canon Customer Care. All Canon printers feature a one-year warranty, upgradeable to three years for minimal cost, and are backed by unlimited hot-line support. To learn more call us on 1 800 021 167.

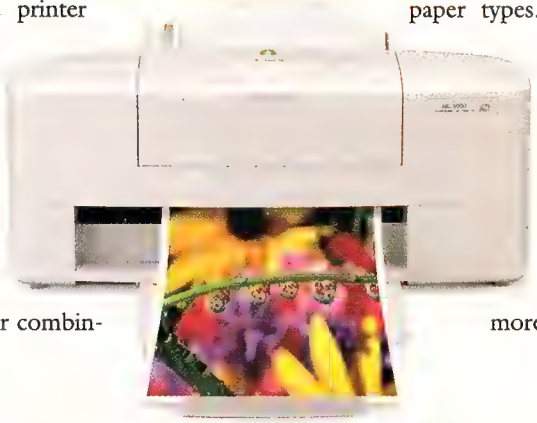


Photo Realism™

New BJC-5000 – $599[RRP] including 3 cartridges.

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CS6002

Top of the News

CODE WILL TACKLE NET CONTENT

An answer to restricting access to illegal or offensive overseas Internet content could be as simple as ISPs providing customers with Net filtering software such as NetNanny, the executive director of the Internet Industry Association (IIA) has said.

An amendment made to the heavily debated Broadcasting Services Amendment (Online Services) Bill, has empowered the Internet industry of Australia to come up with its own code of practice that sets out the "reasonable steps" an ISP will take to block access to overseas sites deemed illegal or highly offensive. The IIA has until the end of the year to produce such a code and have it approved by the Australian Broadcasting Association (ABA).

Peter Coroneos, executive director of the IIA said a best case scenario of the new Bill could be that ISPs provide filter software to their customers: "That may be enough to satisfy the ABA that reasonable steps have been taken," he said. "In which case, those ISPs will be exempt from any of the more harsh access prevention notices."

The Bill establishes a regulatory system under which the ABA will classify Internet content according to the existing classification system used for films and videos, and will concentrate on X and RC (refused classification) material. R-rated material that is not protected by adult verification procedures will also be subject to the law.

As a complaints-driven regime, a hotline will be set up for public complaints and advice, and ISPs when notified of the existence of material on their service classified by the ABA as illegal or highly offensive, will be required to remove or block access to it.

Although the IIA wishes the Government had never embarked on such a law and "implied that the Internet is capable of being cleansed", said Coroneos, the association still believes that "by and large" the Bill is workable regarding Australian-hosted Internet content.

"That pretty much mirrors what happens in Australia already," Coroneos said; "what this law does is put it in a more formal arrangement."

"It's not infrequent for instance that police find material on the Net which they think is unsuitable and material is from time to time taken off. Sometimes ISPs take it off themselves if they inadvertently find material considered to be definitely illegal.

"We had a member the other day who happened to find material they were hosting that was child pornography and they basically took it right down. That kind of stuff does happen."

The more contentious part of the Bill, however, that requires the restriction of access to overseas-hosted Internet content, has not received the IIA's support and was vigorously argued against in the Senate, resulting in a number of amendments including the option of an industry-supported code of practice.

One amendment made specifies that the Internet should be regulated in a manner that maintains "the supply of Internet carriage services at performance standards that reasonably meet the social, industrial and commercial needs of the Australian community".

This, says Coroneos, is almost a guarantee that network performance will be accounted for in any measures the Internet industry would be required to develop. "So if we say that we think the only measures around are likely to cause a slowdown in the Internet, then we could justifiably say that they are not reasonable."

The IIA has already said that measures such as mandatory filtering of overseas content will not be incorporated in the code. "As many experts on both the industry and Government side have stated, this is impracticable. There is nothing to be gained and much to be lost by promising more than can be delivered," said Coroneos.

The ball is now left in the industry's court to develop a code that the ABA will find satisfactory. Coroneos believes this task will take months at least: "It's going to be a huge job for us to do it, we've already spent three years drafting a code of practice we thought we'd finished but now we've got lumbered with this.

Really we're going to have to go away now and see if we can come up with the support of industry and particularly the small players who we're really trying to protect here and make the minimal impact."

- Molly Furzer

SOUNDBYTE

"We're just waiting for a Linux version."

- Jim Marjoram of Voice Perfect, joking courageously as his Dragon Naturally Speaking demo expired in a hail of Win 98 error messages.

Canon BJC-80
$399RRP

Canon BJC-50
$699RRP

PORTABLE
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Advanced colour, cable-less communications, optional scanner plus two sizes that are

Small and smaller!

Canon has a wonderfully new idea for people that need a portable printer. A choice.

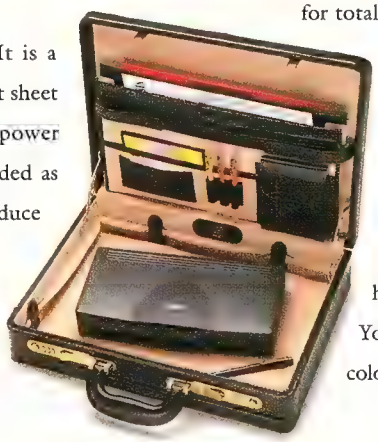
On the small side there is the BJC™-80. It is a fraction of the size of a briefcase. Yet, with its in-built sheet feeder and power adaptor included as standard, it is designed for people who have to produce high volume output from a very small printer.

Drop Modulation Technology.

Conversely, if size is critical, there is the brand new BJC-50 with in-built battery. It's not just small, at approximately half the size of the BJC-80 it's absolutely tiny.

Equally impressive, their performance is as big as their size is small.

Using Canon's advanced Drop Modulation Technology™ you can print everything from colour charts, to high quality photographs. Or, in seconds you can convert to extra high-speed black and white for finished business documents using the dedicated black cartridge with 128 print nozzles!



The BJC-80 fits in approximately half the space of a briefcase. The BJ-50 is approaching 50% smaller still.

Optional colour scanner

For greater portability, both models include an infra-red port for totally cable-less communications with any suitably equipped Windows® 95/98 notebook or PC.

And, if you really need the functionality of an office in the space of a briefcase, both models will accept an optional colour scanner head in place of the print head. It takes only seconds to change the heads. You can then use the scanner head to acquire colour images, or for fax and OCR functions.*

Cable-less communication.

Canon Customer Care. All Canon printers feature a one-year warranty, upgradeable to three years for minimal cost, and are backed by Customer Care hot-line support. Drivers are available for DOS, Windows 3.1x/95/98 and Windows NT.

If you need help choosing between small, and smaller, give us a call on 1 800 021 167.

Canon portable colour Bubble Jet™ printers

Canon

Prices shown are recommended retail prices including tax. *Scanner-head works with Windows 95/98 only. Fax and OCR software not included with purchase. Canon and the Canon logo are registered trademarks and Drop Modulation Technology, Bubble Jet and BJC are trademarks of Canon Inc. Windows is a trademark of Microsoft Corp. in the U.S. and other countries. Canon Australia Pty Ltd ACN 005 002 951.

CS6019

FINAL Y2K WARNING ISSUED

On the last day of May, the Year 2000 Industry Program issued a "final warning" to Australian businesses, urging them to ensure software packages were Y2K compliant in time for the new tax year.

With the 1999/2000 financial year just weeks away, David Leek, the program's national information manager, said business should ensure accounting and financial packages will be ready to reference dates in the year 2000.

At the very least, Leek said, businesses should make sure contingency plans are in place, should systems malfunction.

According to Leek, "There will be people out there using non-compliant software who will start to notice errors.

"Don't just assume calculations are correct," Leek warned, explaining that businesses should verify their IT systems' calculations were correct, from July 1.

Meanwhile, Leek said the Year 2000 Industry Program remained concerned about Australian small business Y2K preparedness generally.

"Really the nought to 19 employee base is dragging Australian business readiness down at the moment," Leek said, adding that the Industry Program planned to launch a 30-page book on Y2K preparation in July, aimed at SMEs (small- to medium-sized enterprises).

The book will be linked to an advertising campaign in metropolitan and regional newspapers, Leek said.

"We are going to have one last push at getting [SMEs] to do something about [Y2K]."

Failure to address Y2K could have serious repercussions for businesses, he said, including difficulties obtaining finance from banks and other lending institutions, losing business to Y2K-ready competitors and facing huge repair costs and waiting times for systems which need to be fixed on January 1, 2000.

- Laura Mason

PHOTOGRAPHS: IAN SHARP

Build-to-order facilities such as Compaq's Australian Technology Centre (above) are increasingly winning favour with vendors as they attempt to keep inventory down and flexibility in shipments up

ACS LAUNCHES PC DRIVING LICENCE

A new computer training initiative has been launched by the Australian Computer Society (ACS) with the hope that it will raise the level of computer literacy across all Australians, young and old.

Called the International Computer Driving Licence (ICDL), the program will introduce a standardised syllabus for basic PC skills and aims to provide an effective benchmark for PC training, said ACS president Prins Ralston.

Training will cover seven modules including word processing, spreadsheets, managing PC files, information network services and databases. The training will be provided by accredited training institutions across Australia, none of which had been finalised at the time of writing.

Based on the European Computer Driving Licence, an international program operating in 21 countries, the ICDL program is flexible, and will allow students to complete each module at their own pace. A $60 "Skills Card" will be used to record their progress through the course, and once completed will be exchanged for an ICDL Driving Licence, the ACS announced.

Pricing for the courses will vary with each accredited training provider, the ACS said.

Ralston claims the new program will assist PC users on a number of fronts and will provide them with an internationally recognised qualification. Employers will also have a standard to look for when hiring and home users will be able to explore the full potential of their PC and the Internet, he said.

- Molly Furzer

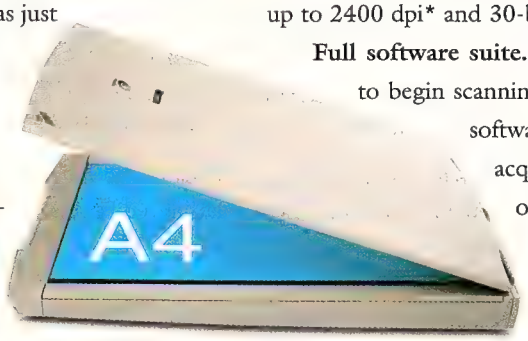
Canon's patented new LIDE technology helps these new scanners

break the price/quality barrier.

Reinvent is the most over used word in the computer business. But this time it's true. Canon has just reinvented scanners.

And not a little bit, but completely.

Introducing LIDE.™ Using a new, patented technology called LIDE (LED Indirect Exposure), we have fundamentally changed the way scanners work, and their price/performance ratio.



LIDE eliminates the need for costly, complex optical mirrors in image acquisition, while it maintains superior image quality and colour clarity.

Easy to use. At the same time, LIDE allowed us to design a smaller, sleeker scanner with an exceptional combination of beginner and expert controls, and with easy to connect (daisy chain) parallel port connections for Windows® 95/98 and NT 4.0.

The new CanoScan™ FB 320P and FB 620P offer a choice of 300 or 600 dpi optical resolution, plus enhanced resolution up to 2400 dpi* and 30-bit colour acquisition as standard.

Full software suite. Both come with everything needed to begin scanning immediately. The CanoCraft CS-P software works for both stand-alone image acquisition, and as a TWAIN driver for other applications. It features new, easier to use controls, and advanced controls for colour matching and image definition. Also included are PhotoExpress for image editing and OmniPage LE for OCR, a CD-ROM with full tutorial and user's manual, a parallel cable and power supply.

LIDE LED Indirect Exposure

Canon Customer Care. The FB 320P/620P scanners feature a one-year warranty upgradeable to three years for minimal cost, and are backed by unlimited hot-line support.

The new CanoScan FB 320P and FB 620P. You can see they are different at first glance. To learn more call 1 800 021 167.

Photo Realism™

FB 320P – Now $199RRP
FB 620P – Only $299RRP

Canon

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CREATIVE RELEASES MP3 PLAYER

Creative Technology has released its first MP3 player — the Nomad — and believes it will not face litigation from the Recording Industry Association of America, the body which brought legal action against Diamond Multimedia's Rio MP3 player last year.

Creative Technology is a member of the Secure Digital Music Initiative (SDMI) and does not fear any legal action resulting in the release of the Nomad, said Jason Tan, a product manager with Creative.

The Nomad ships with 32MB of on-board memory and with an optional 32MB flash memory card. Differing from other MP3 players on the market, the Nomad includes an FM radio tuner plus a built-in microphone that will allow users to record up to four hours of voice recordings, said Tan at the launch.

The Nomad is closer to the size of a small radio tuner than a walkman, and features a sleek lightweight magnesium case. A docking station for the player is provided for uploading and downloading files, while also recharging the player's two AAA batteries. Also bundled with the Nomad is the Creative Digital Audio Center, a software program that allows users to "rip" (copy) songs from CDs into MP3 format, said Tan.

A range of accessories including a car adapter kit will also be available for the Nomad, he said.

The 32MB Nomad is priced at $499 whilst the 64MB version costs $599.

- Molly Furzer

WINDOWS CE TO GET FACELIFT

A total rewrite of Microsoft's handheld operating system Windows CE (WinCE) is expected to be released in the fourth quarter, the company has been telling its key partners.

Code-named Rapier, the OS will be significantly easier to use, Microsoft has said. For Microsoft, ease of use has been a major stumbling block that has kept market acceptance of its handheld platform low.

Microsoft's problem is that the lure of other operating systems is growing. Market researcher IDC says figures for 1998 point to an almost 2-to-1 sales advantage for PalmOS and show that devices running PalmOS grew by as much as 84 per cent in 1998. Some software vendors that market similar business applications for both WinCE and PalmOS are claiming an 8-to-1 advantage in PalmOS software sales.

Recent research also points to the primary reason for the disparity in sales. "The vast majority of users cite the simplicity of the PalmOS and the complexity of WinCE," said Ken Dulaney, vice president of mobile computing at the Gartner Group. "This has registered deep within the bowels of Microsoft. If it means they rewrite the interface [to increase market share], they'll do it."

"They are figuring out how to keep the Windows brand and change everything else," one source said.

One of the key issues facing Microsoft is the lack of compatibility between WinCE and the other Windows platforms.

"Pocket Office is about a quarter compatible with Microsoft Office," said Dulaney, who noted that attached files created in one version of Windows and sent via e-mail may not be compatible with the WinCE version.

- Ephraim Schwartz

REALNETWORKS OPENS LOCAL OFFICE

RealNetworks, the company behind the RealPlayer, has launched a presence in Australia announcing its intentions to encourage and boost the creation of local RealPlayer content.

Declaring there's an underwhelming supply of compelling Australian content for the RealPlayer, the local office will encourage local broadcasters, entertainment and publishing companies to create content, announced Chris Jacobson, managing director of RealNetworks Australia.

"Most of the content at the moment comes from the US," he lamented. "While Australia tends to adopt technology very quickly, we tend to move more slowly in the application of it."

The problem, he said, is not the number of RealPlayer users but the number of server sites which deliver RealPlayer content. According to RealNetwork's figures, there are 1.5 million registered users of the RealPlayer in Australia, which presents an estimated RealPlayer to server ratio of 90 to 10. Jacobson could not estimate the number of server sites in Australia, but announced plans for a 400 per cent increase in G2 server sales in Australia.

- Molly Furzer

EXCITE COMES TO AUSTRALIA

Another American company has set up operations in Australia with the launch in May of Internet portal Excite Australia (www.excite.com.au).

Boasting "comprehensive personalisation" features, Excite Australia is hoping to become the number one Internet portal in Australia.

A joint venture between Excite and LibertyOne, the portal draws on a number of information sources: news from AAP and ABIX business news, stock quotes from Equity World, movie listings from iMovie, Seek job search information and local weather information from the Bureau of Meteorology.

Australia's most popular printer for home and small offices combines exceptional value, with outstanding performance.

Use 75% less ink. Super Economy mode reduces ink consumption by 75% compared to Standard mode, and works for both black and white and colour. Combined with an optional high capacity, black ink cartridge, it can print up to 2400 pages in black and white, and up to 400 in colour using standard inks*. That's anywhere from two to five times the output of any direct competitor!

Photo quality printing. There are three colour print modes – Normal, Fine and Photo. Photo mode emphasises highlights and contrasts, and improves half-tones by producing richer blacks. Or, using the optional black ink cartridge, you can convert the BJC™-265SP to a fast B&W printer.

Brilliant colour, super economy, optional PhotoRealism, better Internet printing,

all for just $169.

Optional PhotoRealism.™ To this Canon adds the option of PhotoRealism inks, for photographic reproduction approaching silver halide quality. It produces up to four times the colour combinations of conventional CMY printers, for smoother colour gradations and more accurate colours in skin tones and other light shades.

Better Internet images. Image Optimisation takes low resolution Internet images (typically 72 dpi), and prints them at the highest resolution supported by the printer to reduce jagged edges and pixelisation.

Canon Customer Care. All Canon printers feature a one-year warranty, upgradeable to three years for minimal cost, and are backed by Customer Care hot-line support. Drivers are available for Windows® 3.1x/95/98 and Windows NT. The BJC-265SP offers exceptional operating economy plus high quality colour printing, for just $169. For more information call 1 800 021 167.

Photo Realism™

BJC-265SP colour Bubble Jet™ printer – $169 RRP

Canon

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ONLINE BROKERS STIR COMPETITION

A new service launched by Quicken.com.au is hoping to snare current or potential users of the Commonwealth Bank's online stockbroking service Commonwealth Securities.

Quicken.com.au has launched a "low-cost" online trading service called Quick.Broker, which matches the fees of Commonwealth Securities, also known as ComSec. ComSec charges a flat $29 for online trades of up to $10,000, or 0.3 per cent for online trades over $10,000.

Quicken.com.au says Quick.Broker will offer customers a range of transaction reports that are not offered by competitors, including detailed company profiles and information on upcoming floats.

The company's site (www.quicken.com.au) already provides live stock quotes and trading news free of charge, and since last year, has offered The Quicken Investment Centre, which is billed as a more sophisticated service offering "investment in managed funds at $49 per trade, portfolio reporting and consolidated tax statements", the company says.

Also making news in the online stockbroking market is E*Trade Australia, which has confirmed that it plans to offer online cross-border trading with US financial markets by the end of this year.

A spokesman for the Internet brokerage house says the move is the first stage of its strategic plan to offer cross-border trading facilities to each of the world's major financial hubs, including the US, UK and Japan.

Bill Wileman, general manager of marketing for E*Trade Australia, said its US affiliate will be the first of its existing business units to join the program, mainly because it's been up and running for some time under its own steam, and its current technological infrastructure is deemed capable of supporting the global initiative.

"We are going to be offering cross-border trading to the US market some time in the next six months. Obviously, with E*Trade having a presence around the globe, the goal is to go beyond [the US] and offer cross-border trading with other markets, but that is determined on the state of each of the E*Trade affiliates in their own markets. Clearly they have to establish in their own markets first," he said.

Obviously [the business units] have to be established and then once that's happened, you've got the infrastructure to actually do [cross-border trades]. Then it's just a matter of working out exactly how to do it, but where there's a will there's a way."

Wileman said its other geographical business units will eventually join its US office in the cross-border project, but will not be allowed to do so until they've demonstrated their ability to service their own markets.

E*Trade currently has operations in France, Canada, Australia and the US. Its UK, Swedish and Japanese businesses are expected to be launched sometime in the third quarter, he said.

- Cass Warneminde and Molly Furzer

COMPETITION WINNER

WaveCom modem competition

The winner of May's modem competition is Kevin Plant — your WaveCom 56K Modem Pro will be arriving shortly!

When asked what he would do with his new modem, Kevin replied enigmatically: "I will use it for good, not evil purposes." May the Force be with you, Kevin.

Interested in receiving your PC news, reviews and tips daily? Surf to http://pcworld.idg.com.au and join PC World's free daily e-mail service

PCW DAILY NEWS SERVICE

PROCESSOR NEWS

Intel has upped the ante once again with its latest Pentium III 550MHz processor. But if you're inclined to buy the fastest PC on the market in the hope of postponing obsolescence, hold your horses.

The next wave of PIII machines, expected later this year, will add more than just clock speed. They will integrate a new system chip set code-named Camino, which supports a 133MHz system bus (up from today's 100MHz bus on PIII computers and 66MHz bus on Celeron systems). The chip set enables AGP 4X graphics and support for direct RDRAM, a fast new type of main memory.

Meanwhile, Intel's archrival AMD has big plans of its own. The first systems based on AMD's new K7 processor are expected to make their appearance soon. The K7, which will launch in 500, 550, and 600MHz versions, supports a 200MHz system bus and looks to be a robust Pentium III competitor.

SIRIUS, HYPERTEC CALL OFF MERGER

The proposed merger of modem maker Sirius Technologies and memory company Hypertec has been called off, the companies announced in a statement issued to the Australian Stock Exchange.

The merger, which had been announced on March 22 with the signing of a Share Subscription Agreement, was subject to a number of conditions. According to the statement, the companies did not come to an agreement on some commercial arrangements and agreed to terminate the Share Subscription Agreement.

"The board of Sirius Technologies Limited has decided that it is more advantageous to provide a definite position on the transaction than delaying the process," the statement said. "The company is then able to focus its energies on increasing sales and profit levels, to the undiluted shareholders, without the distraction of merger planning and implementation discussions."

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full sized printer.

It can cut ink consumption by 75%, be used as a scanner, improve printed images down-loaded from the Internet, or even print banners. And this is in addition to better colour for plain paper, PhotoRealism inks for the gold standard in photo quality printing, plus super fast B&W!

Better operating economy. Super Economy mode reduces ink consumption by 75% compared to Standard mode, and works in both black and white and colour. It can print up to 3600 pages in black and white, and up to 400 in colour[1].

Better on plain paper. Another feature is Canon's Drop Modulation Technology with dual drop sizes for smoother colour gradations. It is designed to produce better looking colour on plain paper, which also helps keep operating costs down.

The PhotoRealism gold standard. When quality is most important, there is the option of Canon PhotoRealism inks. They vary the saturation per pixel so that a single dot could have 0%, 33%, 67% or 100%. This produces up to five times as many colour combinations as conventional CMYK inks, with better half-tones and almost no visible grain, even in areas of low colour density.

Super Economy in colour and B&W

High speed blacks. A high-speed black ink cartridge with 128 print nozzles is included with your purchase. It is capable of speeds up to 510 characters per second (4.5PPM)[2].

It's even a scanner. The optional IS-22 scan head allows you to turn your printer into a colour scanner in seconds. It scans colour images up to 360 dpi and offers high speed B&W scanning for fax, OCR and copying functions[3].

Canon Customer Care. All Canon printers feature a one-year warranty, upgradeable to three years for minimal cost, and are backed by unlimited hot-line support.

The BJC™-4310SP. Everything you could ask for in a printer, and a little more. For more information call us on 1800 021 167.

Photo Realism™

BJC-4310SP colour Bubble Jet™ printer – $239[RRP]

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CS6013

Online News

MORMON SITE CRASHES WITH DEMAND

Net users wanting to access the Mormon Church's genealogy Web site FamilySearch were made to wait up to 30 minutes for a 20 minute session because demand was outstripping the site's capabilities shortly after its launch.

Two days after the official launch of FamilySearch by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and access to the site was being granted on a rotational basis. That followed its first day when 700 people per second were trying to access the site and caused its servers to crash, said a statement from the Church.

FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org), provides free access to the Church's genealogy database of more than 400 million names.

The site was built to handle 25 million hits a day and was accommodating 40 million hits per day after its official launch. The church estimated another 60 million hits were being turned away.

NEW NET ACCESS PLAN OFFERS FIVE FREE HOURS

EISA, an ISP with points of presence throughout Australia has launched a new pricing plan which it believes is the first of its kind in Australia: five free hours per month and $1 for each hour thereafter.

EISA (www.eisa.com.au) revealed its new Internet access plan — EISAFree5 — calling it "Australia's first free no commitment Internet access offer".

"With EISAFree5 if customers use less than five hours each month there is nothing to pay, it's free," said the company's general manager Peter Mackow.

According to Mackow the ISP's network is prepared for the increased demand that EISAFree5 may bring. The company already has access points in all mainland capital cities, it says.

A sample of stuff.com.au's wares

ONLINE AUCTIONS BOOST FOR OZ

May saw the launch of two new online auction services in Australia — the locally developed stuff.com.au and Yahoo! Australia & NZ Auctions.

Australian-owned and developed, stuff.com.au offers a person-to-person auction service that could expand to include the clearance of surplus stock from merchants, the company announced.

Registering with the service is free whilst a "minimal" listing fee and a scaled commission (based on the highest bid), will apply. Upon registering each buyer or seller will be given a home page which can be used for highlighting their goods for sale or making bids on items.

All items are priced in Australian dollars and a secure environment for credit card transactions is provided, the company claims.

Yahoo! Australia & NZ, meanwhile, offers users the opportunity to buy and sell goods in local or global markets in association with other Yahoo! portals.

The site boasts more than 2000 categories, says Yahoo!, and has no commission or listing fees for users. Multiple quantity auctions are possible and the seller may nominate which currency bids may be made in, said Yahoo! in a statement.

A third online auction house is also expected to be launched in Australia by US online auction house eBay in partnership with PBL Online, now called eCorp.

TRAVEL.COM.AU MAKES STRONG ASX DEBUT

Australian Internet travel agency travel.com.au became the second Internet company to float on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX), debuting mid-May at $3.12 per share, more than double its issue price.

The float, which was reportedly oversubscribed, offered 18.8 million shares to the public at $1.25 per share. Through the listing travel.com.au raised $23.5 million, which, according to a company statement, will be used to further develop the company's online business in both Australia and overseas.

The company has a forecast revenue of $102.2 million for fiscal 2000 and reports that it has already exceeded forecasts for the first four months of this year.

Making other news, travel.com.au launched its first "e-tail" store in Sydney, a retail store with computers permanently linked to the Internet for users to browse the company's Web site. pcw

Only Canon offers a way to acquire and print images in colour with a

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Easy to use. To get you started, Canon includes image acquisition and editing software with your scanner head purchase at no extra cost! And using it, you can scan full colour or 256 grey-scale images in resolution up to 360 dpi. Or you can use high-speed mode if you simply want Black and White at 90 dpi, supported by most fax software. Best of all, Canon offers a full range of models with this remarkable functionality. They are the BJC™-50 and BJC-80 portable printers, the BJC-4310SP and BJC-4650!

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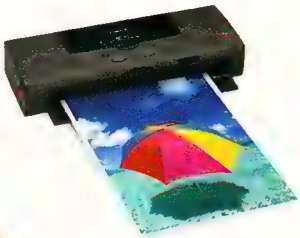
The BJC-4310SP with PhotoRealism.

The portable BJC-80.



The even smaller, portable BJC-50.

The BJC-4650 for Windows and Macintosh and sizes to A3.*

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CS6020

News Feature

BEHIND THE BLUE DOOR

It's the fastest processor yet but Intel promises the Pentium III offers more than clock speeds. With the chip's 70 new Streaming SIMD extensions, do PIII-optimised Web sites and software offer all that they are hyped to?

You have probably seen the big blue door. That's Intel's marketing gimmick, designed to convince PC buyers that its new Pentium III chip powers the most irresistible systems ever built. The door has opened again. Intel has pushed the PIII to 550MHz, up from the initial 450 and 500MHz clock speeds.

And although power is important, if you're considering a PIII PC, you should also ask some questions about PIII-enhanced software: how much is available, and what's in it for you?

The PIII's 70 SSEs or Streaming SIMD extensions (like the 57 MMX instructions) speed up applications or browser plug-ins designed specifically to take advantage of them. In particular, Intel says the SSEs accelerate image rendering, 3D geometry and other multimedia tasks. Software written to use these new instructions should show a noticeable performance boost.

Programs that have been optimised for Microsoft's DirectX 6.1 API can also benefit.

Intel estimates that about 100 Pentium III-enhanced applications will have shipped by June 1. Most of them fall into one of four categories: Internet plug-ins (and Web sites that use them), voice recognition, image editing and games. Bread-and-butter applications like word processors, spreadsheets and e-mail won't get any boost.

THE WILD WILD WEB

Intel has pegged its hopes for the Pentium III on the Web. In practical terms, that means some Internet plug-ins have been rewritten to take advantage of SSE instructions. Web sites will then have to enhance their media clips and 3D demos to take advantage of those enhanced plug-ins.

Central to promoting the online PIII experience, Intel Australia along with other Intel subsidiaries launched the Intel WebOutfitter service in March. Intel WebOutfitter is a free service that aims to enrich PIII users' online experience with Internet content that has been specially PIII-optimised.

Shipping with PIII machines (or available directly from Intel) is a CD-ROM featuring the most up-to-date PIII-optimised plug-ins with a single-step installation process. At press time, the CD included 20 plug-ins with such notables as Shockwave 7 and Flash Player from Macromedia, Interactive Pictures' IPIX viewer and RealPlayer G2 from RealNetworks. Liquid Audio Liquid Music Player 4.0, 3D Dreams Spike Player for Shockwave, and LivePicture's LivePicture Viewer, are also included.

Every 60 days, the WebOutfitter service promises to showcase a number of Web sites, developed in Australia and overseas, that feature content which takes advantage of the Pentium III SSEs and optimised plug-ins.

An example of an Australian Web site that has already been optimised for the PIII is CitySearch Australia (www.citysearch.com.au), which developed a 3D tour of Sydney utilising IPIX images. It was such a success that CitySearch is reportedly looking into creating a 3D tour of Melbourne also, says Intel.

In the works as we went to press was an interactive section of the Web site Indigenous Australia (www.indig.com), a promotional and e-commerce site for Aboriginal artists and music. Completely built in Macromedia Flash, the new section called "The Digital Dig" will let users play a digital digeridoo by scrolling over symbols representing different music and sounds such as bird noises, said an Intel spokesperson.

Chaos Music Market (www.cmm.com.au) will be showcased also, offering sample video clips of music that the site sells, using the PIII-optimised RealPlayer G2 plug-in, which uses SSE to smooth jerky video playback.

According to a RealNetworks source, the Pentium III-enabled player will improve playback efficiency by only 2 to 5 per cent compared to a Pentium II. However, the boost in speed may be more noticeable with content specifically encoded for the new player.

The improved plug-ins do speed up some tasks, such as streaming animation. One site that Intel touts as being optimised for Pentium III users

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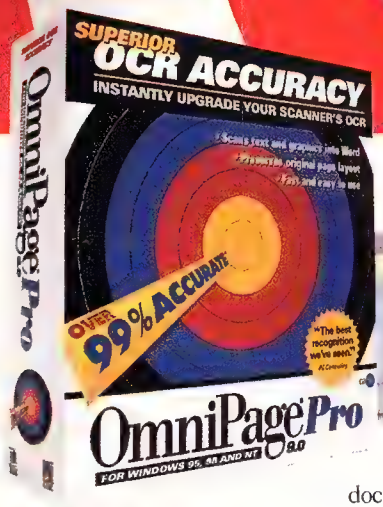

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(www.exciteextreme.com) features a PIII-enhanced plug-in that helps you search the Web. Instead of clicking through a list of search categories, you can click on and rotate a series of 3D objects that represent topics. The PIII instructions improve the smoothness and frame rate of the 3D graphics.

On the whole, Pentium III-enhanced content won't radically improve your everyday browsing.

VOICE OF REASON

If SSE-enhanced plug-ins and Web sites don't exactly light your fire, Intel is hoping that better, faster voice recognition will do the job. For business users, it is these apps that show the greatest promise.

A half-dozen companies, including Dragon, IBM, and Lernout & Hauspie, have announced that already shipping or forthcoming versions of their voice recognition applications will exploit SSE and another Pentium III innovation, which is called cache prefetch, in order to make voice recognition increasingly attractive to the mass market.

Lotus' forthcoming SmartSuite Millennium edition will use PIII instructions to speed up voice recognition processing. Philips plans to ship a PIII-enhanced version of its FreeSpeech and both IBM and Lernout & Hauspie have made third-quarter product plans.

Dragon is shipping an SSE-enhanced version of Point & Speak. Comparing the new version (on a Pentium III-450) with a non-enhanced version (running on a Pentium II-450), we found training times to be dramatically faster: with the enhanced version, training took us just three minutes; with the unenhanced version, that task took up to 25 minutes.

Questions remain, however, about whether those improvements are attributable specifically to use of the SSE instructions. In the process of reprogramming a voice recognition application for the Pentium III, vendors may find that it speeds up on other CPUs as well. For example, IBM, while optimising its ViaVoice recognition engine for the Pentium III, achieved significant performance increases on non-SSE CPUs as well, according to Eddie Epstein, the company's manager of speech recognition development. Still, Epstein predicts that the next version of ViaVoice will reap "modest" performance gains from the Pentium III.

Digital artists will also benefit right away from the Pentium III. A free update of Adobe Photoshop 5.0 that adds support for SSE has been released on the company's Web site. PC World tested a prerelease version and found that when applying complex image filters to very large images, the update accelerated processing by approximately 20 per cent. Adobe plans to release SSE-enabled versions of PhotoDeluxe in the third quarter.

Microsoft Office 2000 has two PIII-enhancements, Microsoft says. PhotoDraw, the business graphics application included in Office 2000 Premium Edition, will get a power boost. Microsoft PowerPoint 2000 will allow you to add video clips to presentations and then encode the whole thing as an MPEG-4 file for streaming playback, tapping the Pentium III for a performance boost in the process. The chip doesn't help during playback, though, according to Microsoft Office product manager John Duncan.

IT managers may also like the Pentium III. A slew of upcoming security and asset-management utilities will use the chip's controversial ID number to keep track of software licences and hardware. Web sites may use the number to validate user IDs.

IT'S ALL A GAME

Games are where the Pentium III really gets to strut its stuff, by accelerating the geometry calculations used to build and animate complex characters and objects. Measured in raw frame rates, the performance gains are dramatic, allowing developers to make characters, lighting and action more realistic. But as IBM discovered with ViaVoice, Activision found that rewriting its Heavy Gear II shooter to take advantage of the new instructions also yielded better performance on Pentium II systems that didn't support SSE, according to Ryan Moos, the game's associate producer.

But based on the currently available software, business buyers will probably want to wait on the Pentium III. The next version of the chip, due out later this year and code-named Coppermine, will sport higher clock, memory bus, and AGP speeds, as well as a full-speed integrated cache. In the meantime, those SSE instructions, as well as the programs that use them, will not be enough to entice most mainstream users. pcw

- Scott Spanbauer and Laurianne McLaughlin

Applications optimised forthe Pentium III

As PIII-enhanced apps creep to market this year, many business users will likely be underwhelmed by the selection. Here are some highlights.

		Availability
Business	Adobe PhotoShop 5.0	now
	Dragon Point & Speak	now
	IBM ViaVoice	spring
	Lernout & Hauspie Voice Express	now
	Microsoft PowerPoint 2000	now
Web	Metacreations MetaStream Streaming 3D Viewer	now
	Oz.com Fluid 3D plug-in for RealPlayer G2	now
	RealNetworks RealPlayer G2	now
	Shells Interactive Spike	now
Games	Activision Heavy Gear II	now
	Activision Battlezone II	spring
	Interplay Descent 3D	now
	Id Software Quake III Arena	spring
	BDE Xena: Warrior Princess	now

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GEEKY OLD LINUX GETS A WINDOWS MAKEOVER

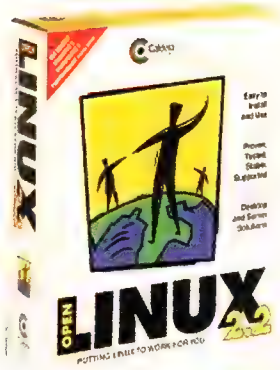
Despite Linux's underdog appeal and expanding share of the server market, using the Unix clone as a desktop operating system has until now been strictly for geeks.

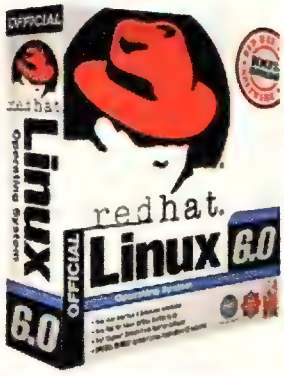
Linux has never been able to match Windows 98's nearly hands-free installation, encyclopedic Plug and Play hardware support, and cadre of available applications.

But two new versions from Caldera and Red Hat make the upstart OS a reasonable alternative for the rest of us. Both offer improved installation programs, broader hardware support, and new graphical interfaces that bear a striking resemblance to Windows. And compared to Windows, Linux costs almost nothing. The Caldera and Red Hat bundles retail for between $100 and $120 each, but they include the OS and hundreds of applications; the base OS itself is available as a free download from hundreds of Web sites.

The advent of these kinder, gentler Linuxes is just one more indication that the alternative OS is on a roll. This year IBM, Compaq and Dell have all announced that they'll install and support Red Hat Linux on desktop computers. Market research firm IDC says commercial Linux shipments will grow at a rate of 25 per cent per year through 2003, compared to 10 per cent per year for all other desktop operating systems combined.

Nevertheless, Linux has a way to go before it becomes a major OS contender. Latest estimates put its installed base at around 7 to 10 million, compared to the hundreds of millions running some version of Windows. And Linux has no unified, concerted marketing campaign to drum up mainstream popularity (of course, neither did a little thing called the Internet). More pertinently for end users, the shortage of Linux-based application software, the attendant file compatibility problems between Linux and Windows users, and a lack of hardware support — particularly for USB and DVD — mean that Linux remains a hard sell.





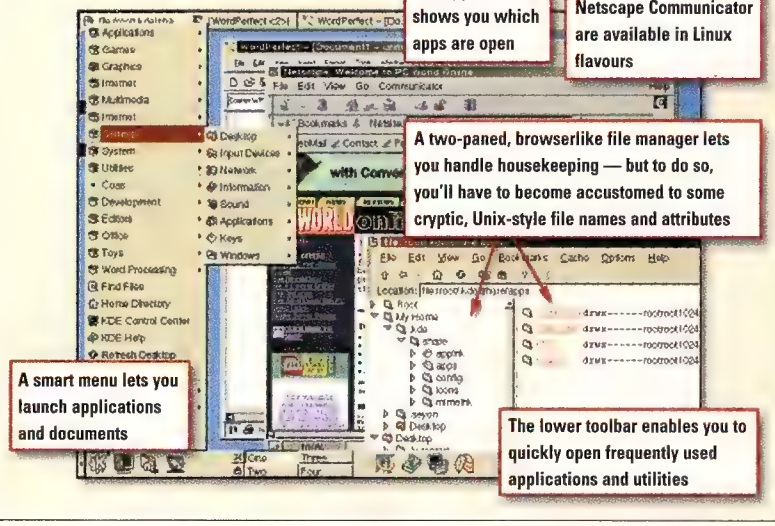
UP AND RUNNING IN MINUTES

I tested beta versions of Caldera's OpenLinux 2.2 and Red Hat Linux 6.0 on a Pentium III 500MHz system. Though I'd installed various flavours of Linux in the past, I'd always given up before getting many key components properly configured.

So I was pleasantly surprised by how easy it was to get Caldera's version installed and working. The OpenLinux bundle includes a special edition of PowerQuest's PartitionMagic, which made creating the necessary Linux disk partitions much easier. After finishing the partitioning in Windows 98, my system rebooted and zipped through the business of installing files and identifying hardware. I met with only one obstacle: the program that configures the graphical interface didn't get my video board settings quite right, preventing the KDE

Look familiar? Look again

The KDE graphical user interface for Linux could, at first glance, be mistaken for Windows 9x



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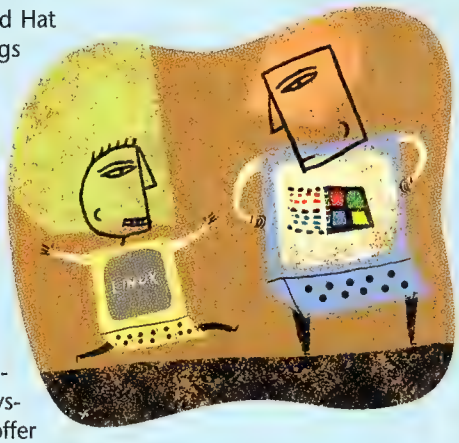
HN 19863

COREL AIMS FOR THE DESKTOP



If you're not convinced that Red Hat and Caldera's Linux offerings quite match the ease of use and charm you're used to with the Windows interface, it may be worth waiting for Corel's own attempt at the operating system.

The Canadian company announced in March at LinuxWorld in the US that it would help grow the Linux market by offering an easy-to-use version of the operating system that manufacturers could offer bundled with low-cost desktop PCs.

Scheduled to ship in November, Corel Desktop Linux will be easy for users to set up, with automatic hardware detection and configuration, and a feature that allows users to download the latest updates from the Internet, according to Michael Cowpland, Corel's president and CEO.

"So far, (Linux) has been mostly for enthusiasts and for servers. The desktop use hasn't happened in a big way," he said. "To become really popular, we believe Linux must have the look and feel of Windows."

Corel Desktop Linux will also feature a technology called WinE, designed to allow users to run Windows applications on their Linux desktop.

And slated for a late-1999, early-2000 release are Linux versions of Corel's WordPerfect Office 2000, CorelDraw and Corel Photo-Paint. The company already offers WordPerfect 8 for Linux as a free download from http://linux.corel.com.

- Molly Furzer and James Niccolai

graphical user interface from loading. Experimenting with more conservative settings solved the problem.

The beta version of Red Hat Linux 6.0 was considerably rougher, my installation experience bumpier than with OpenLinux. Like OpenLinux, Red Hat Linux 6.0 partitioned my drive and installed files with little intervention from me. But installing hardware was harder. I had to scroll through a list of hundreds of boards to find my Diamond Viper 550 graphics card. And Red Hat's installer couldn't find a driver for my network adapter, so I couldn't use a network connection to the Internet. A configuration utility allowed me to create a dial-up Internet connection, but getting the details right may be trickier than the average Windows Dial-Up Networking user expects.

In both cases, once I had the OS installed, I was ready to explore the graphical user interface and start browsing the Web. Windows veterans should quickly get the hang of OpenLinux's KDE and Red Hat's GNOME. Both let you store files on the desktop, launch applications and utilities from a pop-up menu, and track running applications with taskbar icons. Most menus and icons display balloon help when you hover the pointer over them. Though they differ in details, and each has its own idiosyncrasies, the interfaces are sufficiently similar — to Windows and to each other — that you could switch between either and Windows without developing a personality disorder.

APPLICATIONS AWOL

Microsoft is unlikely to release a Linux version of its Office suite any time soon, and many bread-and-butter Windows apps may never appear in Linux form. Still, both Linux bundles I looked at ship with literally hundreds of applications and utilities.

Many of these only a Unix geek could love. But bundled programs include Netscape Communicator; a Photoshop-strength image editing application known simply as The Gimp; utilities; and numerous games. Caldera's Linux bundle also comes with copies of Corel WordPerfect 8 for Linux, which reads and writes Word files, and Stardivision's StarOffice 5.1, which includes a word processor, database and spreadsheet that can read and write most Office file formats (albeit imperfectly).

But ultimately, if you need 100 per cent compatibility with Microsoft Office, or you rely on Office's more advanced features, you'll still need Windows. And until Linux's authors get around to writing the necessary drivers, you can forget about playing DVDs, connecting to USB devices, and using other newfangled technologies like IEEE 1394 FireWire. But that doesn't mean you can't keep a copy of Linux on the side. After all, if the revolution's coming, it can't hurt to be prepared.

- Scott Spanbauer

OpenLinux 2.2
Price: $120 ($US50)
Caldera Systems
www.calderasystems.com

Red Hat Linux 6.0
Price: $99.95 ($US40)
Red Hat Software
www.redhat.com

Buying locally
Both operating systems are available for purchase online at everythinglinux.com.au. Alternatively, visit the Web sites of Caldera and Red Hat where you can find contact details for authorised resellers in Australia.

Get started with Linux
Experimenting with Red Hat Linux 5.2? Check out our Getting Started guide on CD1

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Readers' Forum

We are pleased to receive your letters, but please keep them to less than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for publication.

Please send mail to
PO Box 295, St Leonards, NSW 2065 or e-mail Neville_Clarkson@idg.com.au

THE HIGH COST OF LOW PRICES

- CN Davies

I read with some bemusement Colin Kangas' mutterings (*Inkjet Robbery*, May 1999, p42) with regard to inkjet cartridge pricing, and equally so the editor's response.

Mr Kangas' sentiments are indicative of what is wrong with the public perception of the whole PC marketplace. There seems to be a perception that PC equipment should be very cheap if not free, but people forget to consider the impact of this.

As a worker in this industry for more than 10 years, I find my livelihood being eroded by falling prices and greater user expectations.

Five years ago a printer with lesser capabilities than a BJC-255SP cost in excess of $600, yet now the same device costs less then a third and people are still screaming for more.

While on the face of it reduced prices seem to benefit the consumer, in fact the consumer in many ways is a loser. Seven years ago we sold a printer, included a printer cable and in many cases provided delivery and installation. With today's prices you get a machine in a box and work it out for yourself.

Many companies like mine find it hard to compete against the huge box shops and are being driven out of business as a result.

The end users believe they are winning by buying a printer from a box shop at a low price, but when they are unable to make it operate correctly and the box shop cannot help them, they come to a company like mine for assistance. We cop the wrath of these users since we charge for our time.

They expect us to do it for free, but how can we when we didn't sell the machine in the first place? Many marketing types would suggest that if we did provide this service for free, the customers would return to buy their next piece of equipment and hence we would be rewarded. I'm here to tell you that anyone who believes that needs to work in this industry for a while and see if they still think the same.

Another pet hate of customers is that many of us now find it necessary to charge for repairs when no fault is found. Typically this is due to the user having a Windows-related problem. We do provide support for this kind of problem, but we have to charge for it. The NFF has had to be applied as a matter of economic survival, since 30 per cent of the machines we see in our workshop are indeed not faulty. Our technicans expect to be paid, but I wonder how we can afford to pay them when they spend 30 per cent of their time testing machines that

OTC-600 EP
- 30 bit Colour Depth (internal)
- Optical resolution 300X600 dpi
- Max. resolution 4800X4800 dpi
- Scan Area 8.5"X11.6" (A4)
- EPP for PC only

$139

OTC-1200 EP
- 36 bit Colour Depth (internal)
- Optical resolution 600X1200 dpi
- Max. resolution 9600X9600 dpi
- Scan Area 8.5"X11.6" (A4)
- EPP for PC only

$179

OTC-1200 SP
- 36 bit Colour Depth (internal)
- Optical resolution 600X1200 dpi
- Max. resolution 9600X9600 dpi
- Scan Area 8.5"X11.6" (A4)
- SCSI2 for PC & MAC

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OTC-Power Pro
- 36 bit Color Depth (internal)
- Optical resolution 1200X4800 dpi
- Max. resolution 9600X9600 dpi
- Scan area 8.5"X11.6"
- SCSI to PC/MAC
- Optional transparency scanning

$1,999

OTC-1200 A3 Pro
- 36 bit Color Depth (internal)
- Optical resolution 600X1200 dpi
- Max. resolution 9600X9600 dpi
- Scan Area 11.6"X16.5" (A3)
- SCSI2 for PC & MAC
- Optional transparency scanning

$649

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do not result in a chargeable repair.

In relation to "refills" for ink cartridges, despite what the markets would say, the fact is that many of these refills can and do damage the printers they are used in.

It is a matter of trade practices legislation that prevents us from warning our customers of this and indeed limits Canon's and others' ability to do so.

I 've heard so many times people telling us they have used them before and had no ill results, only to have them visit our service centre some time later with an ink-related problem.

So I suggest to Mr Kangas that he enjoy his wonderful new Canon printer which he obtained at a ridiculously low price, and thank his lucky stars that there is anyone left out there that provides sales and after sales support. The sale of ink is the last bastion of profitability for many printer resellers and if the prices fall any further, no one will be able to afford to employ anyone with the expertise necessary to support them.

MEDIOCRE TELECOMS

- Martin Taylor

As a rural user, and one who's denied access to high-speed Internet access, I read your article on "making the modem obsolete" (April 99, p46) with hope that one day, I too can download a Web page without having to go and make a cuppa first.

Alas, what your article covered was little more than what technology is available to those few who can either afford it, or who Telstra has deemed worthy of having the technology available (Big Pond Cable for example) or those ISPs who are making services such as satellite links available to their customers.

I live in a large rural urban centre not two hours from Melbourne. The population in the region is over 70,000 people. Yet, where I live, in a new estate, I cannot connect to my ISP any faster than 28.8Kbps. We're lucky to have this green box down the road, which all the estate's phones are connected to via the normal copper cable. From there, it's a single cable back to the exchange. This technology also prevents us from having services such as Calling Number Display.

Letters to Telstra, and even my local MP, as well as Sen. Alston himself, have done little more than waste yet more paper.

I feel for those who, less than an hour away from me, have no local Internet access at all, little or no mobile phone coverage, and a dearth of other services, fast becoming regarded as "essential" in today's world.

Unfortunately, for the vast unwashed, I think that we'll be stuck with less than mediocre service for some time to come.

Thanks, Telstra, for making my life easier (not).

Finally, your contributor, Mr Brian Livingston doesn't help matters any by advocating software that sends e-mail in HTML code complete with attached graphics. I don't need to tart up an e-mail to get my point across. Nor do people who are fluent in the English language need to add superflous window dressing when conveying a message to me. I can read. That is all that I, and most of us, I would imagine, require e-mail to be — plain text. Can you imagine the bandwidth implications if people started sending such e-mail? Not to mention the havoc that spammers would cause.

I get say, 20 e-mails a day. If each of them is 50K in size, due to flashy text and graphics, that would be over a megabyte of data to download. At my limited bandwith that would take me close to ten minutes to retrieve. At five dollars an hour, this isn't cheap. PCW

MISSIVE OF THE MONTH

Thanks to Chris Davies for his thoughts on the issue of falling prices. He wins a Rotring Quattro Data pen worth $129.90.

The Quattro Data has a black ballpoint, pencil, fluorescent marker and works on PC and handheld touch screens.

Olympic 4X24 SCSI CD Writer Kit

- Teac 4-speed write/24-speed read CD Writer
- "Win On CD to go" 4.5 version
- PCI SCSI Controller.
- Cable, driver and manual inc.

$590

Olympic 6X24 SCSI CD Writer Kit

- Teac 6-speed write/24-speed read CD Writer
- "Win On CD to go" 4.5 version
- PCI SCSI Controller.
- Cable, driver and manual inc.

$899

Olympic 4X4X20 SCSI CDR Writer Kit

- Ricoh 4-speed **re-write**/20-speed read CD Writer
- Win On CD to go 4.5 version
- PCI SCSI Controller.
- Cable, driver and manual inc.

$899

Olympic 6XDVD IDE Kit

Home PC Theatre

- DVD-Rom: up to 6X (8.1MB/s), CD-ROM: up to 32X (4.8MB/s)
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- Cable, driver & manual inc.

$449

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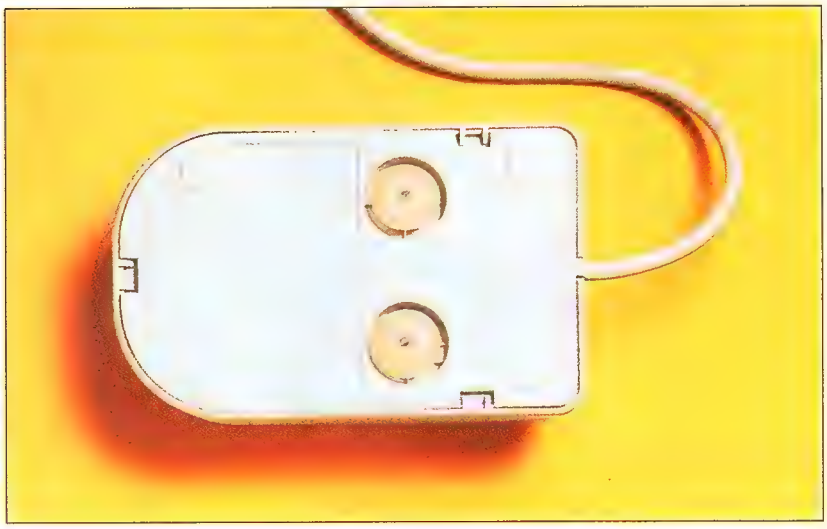
Product Watch

By Molly Furzer

Hardware

A MOUSE THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME?

Key Tronic has come up with a mouse minus the tracking ball. Instead, the device uses dual motion detectors (pictured), which according to the company, "deliver smooth and accurate operation", even though your desk may be scattered with the crumbs of your lunch.



The motion detector "feet" are sealed, says Key Tronic, "so there's no way for dirt or dust to get inside".

The $75 mouse has an added feature with three interchangeable button sets — a two-button set for right-handed users, a two-button set for left-handed users, and a three-button set.

And what's it called? The Lifetime Mouse — it's "guaranteed for life", says the brochure.

Electronic Resources Australia
Phone: (02) 9736 3688
www.keytronic.com

CANON DEBUTS FILM SCANNER

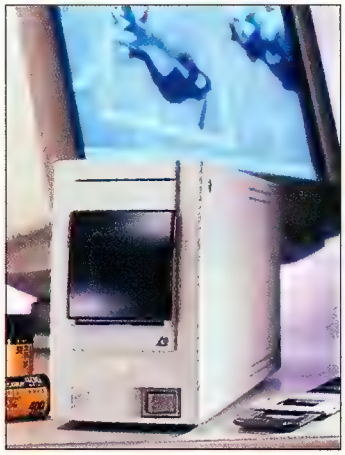
Canon has launched a new slide and film scanner, the $1499 CanoScan FS2710.

According to Canon, the new compact desktop scanner is capable of scanning 35mm slides, strip film and Advanced Photo System film.

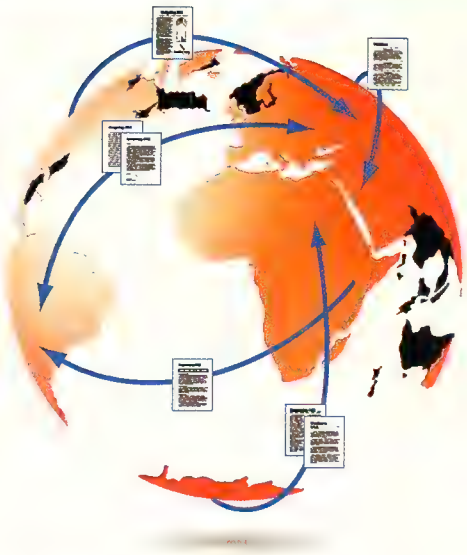
The FS2710 provides for optical resolutions of up to 2720dpi and scans with 360-bit input for the recognition of 68.7 billion colours, Canon says.

Included with the scanner is an Adaptec Plug and Play PCI SCSI card, a TWAIN-compliant driver, CanoCraft FS, and CanoCraft Copy, which offers one-step colour printing of scanned images.

Canon
Phone: (02) 9805 2000
www.canon.com.au



Canon's new desktop film scanner, the CanoScan FS2710



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WINDOWS 20

Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0 is now available with Service pack 5, which includes Y2K and Euro updates. For Year 2000 information regarding Microsoft products see www.microsoft.com/year2000/

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NEW MEGAPIXEL CAMERA BY RICOH

The RDC-5000, a new 2.3 megapixel digital camera has been launched by Ricoh.

The new camera ($1999) provides resolutions of either 1792 x 1200 pixels (2.3 million), 896 x 600 pixels, or 640 x 480 pixels.

It's the first digital camera in Ricoh's range to include the USB interface, says the company, and incorporates a number of features such as: 2.3x optical zoom (equivalent to 38-86mm), 4cm macro, and a 1.8in LCD monitor and viewfinder.

Other features include continuous shooting, time lapse, auto focus, auto exposure, manual override and white balance control.

A date imprinting capability is also included, plus the option to take images in black and white, antique and sepia tones.

The camera comes with an 8MB flash memory card, AC adapter, video, serial and USB cables, and a bonus software bundle of photoediting tools.

The RDC-5000: A new megapixel camera for the Ricoh range

Ricoh
Phone: (03) 9888 7722
www.ricoh.com.au

FOUR NEW FLASH CARD READERS

Ricoh has also announced the arrival of a new range of flash card readers from Simple Technology.

According to Ricoh, Simple Technology's PhotoReaders transfer data held on flash cards to PCs at a rate of up to 12Mbps.

Four models ranging in price from $199 to $599 have been launched, catering for the three major flash form factors — CompactFlash, PC Card flash and SmartMedia.

The range consists of two PhotoReaders for the CompactFlash, one with a parallel port interface ($199) and one with a USB interface ($229). A SmartMedia PhotoReader with a parallel port interface is available at $199, and a PC Card PhotoReader with a SCSI interface is priced at $599.

Ricoh
Phone: (03) 9888 7722
www.simpletech.com

Simple's PhotoReader for the CompactFlash, one of four new flash card readers from the company

LCD: BIGGER, STILL THIN

A new 18in LCD monitor has been added to Hitachi's flat panel display range, the company has announced.

The Hitachi PCX-DT3182 is priced at $8300, uses an 18in Super TFT liquid crystal display, and is capable of displaying 16.77 million colours, Hitachi claims.

The monitor offers a viewing area equivalent to that of a 20in CRT monitor and a wide viewing angle of up to 80 degrees off-centre in any plane, says Hitachi.

According to Hitachi, the PCX-DT3182 consumes half the power that a typical CRT display does, and at 11kg is one-third the weight of a 21in CRT monitor.

Hitachi
Phone: (02) 9888 4100
www.hitachi.com.au

Hitachi's new 18in Super TFT LCD monitor

GATEWAY LAUNCHES NEW LINES

Gateway has launched two new lines of desktop PCs that will replace the company's G-series desktop product line.

The Gateway Performance line will deliver the latest technology and highest performance for enthusiasts and clients who want the top-of-the-line performance, says Gateway. The line is fully customisable and features a wide range of component choices, the company says.

An example is the Gateway Performance 550 with a 550MHz Pentium III processor, 12.69GB Ultra ATA hard drive, 128MB SDRAM, DVD IV ROM drive and 16MB graphics accelerator.

The second line, Gateway Essential, "is designed to meet the individual needs of the client looking for a full-featured multimedia system, with traditional Gateway value, while maximising those features that are most important to the client's needs: processor speed, RAM amount and hard drive size", explains a statement from the company.

An example is the Gateway 466c, which features a 466MHz Celeron processor, 64MB SDRAM, 12.9GB Ultra ATA hard drive, DVD IV ROM drive and 8MB graphics accelerator.

The Gateway Performance 550

Gateway
Phone: 1800 500 731
www.gw2k.com.au

NEW CAMERA FROM AGFA

Agfa has added a new model to its digital camera line, announcing the ePhoto CL50, which features a 1.3 megapixel CCD sensor.

The ePhoto CL50 ($1999) includes a number of features new to the ePhoto range of cameras, including burst mode (for continuous shots at half second intervals), and a built-in microphone that allows sounds to be attached to images.

The camera includes a 3x optical zoom lens, 2x digital zoom, four flash modes and four resolution settings, the maximum being 1600 x 1200 pixels. The camera also includes automatic and manual control over exposure, focus and white balance, says Agfa.

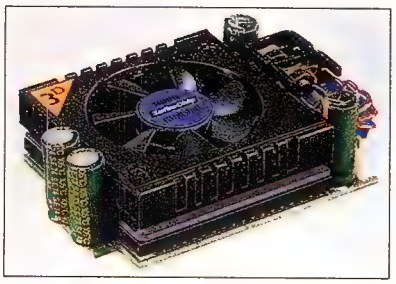
According to Agfa, the camera includes a panoramic mode that allows shots to be "tagged" for the creation of panoramas. The photos are then "stitched" together with PhotoWise 1.8, a software program included with the ePhoto CL50.

Agfa
Phone: (03) 9264 7711
www.agfa.com.au

Agfa ePhoto CL50

KINGSTON TURBOCHIP UPGRADES TO 366MHZ

Kingston Technology has released a new processor upgrade that brings 166MHz or faster systems up to 366MHz.



Kingston Technology's TurboChip 366

The TurboChip 366 ($499), is a chip-for-chip replacement solution for AMD-K6 or Pentium-based PCs (socket 5 or socket 7-based processors).

The upgrade chip utilises 3DNow! technology and DirectX 6 and comes with a heat sink/fan integrated cooling unit, a pass-through power cord and a 2.2V to 3.3V voltage regulator, says Kingston.

According to the company, upgrading with the chip is quick and easy, and no additional changes to the PC's hardware or software, are required.

Kingston Technology
Phone: (03) 9690 9699
www.kingston.com

Software

FACING AN INFORMATION OVERLOAD? TRACK IT!

You were sitting at your PC and you know you read that piece of information somewhere — but where? Was it in an e-mail or on a Web site? Or perhaps a document on your network?

Does this scenario sound familiar? Had you earlier enlisted the assistance of Enfish TrackerPro — a new software application — finding that vital titbit may have been a little easier.

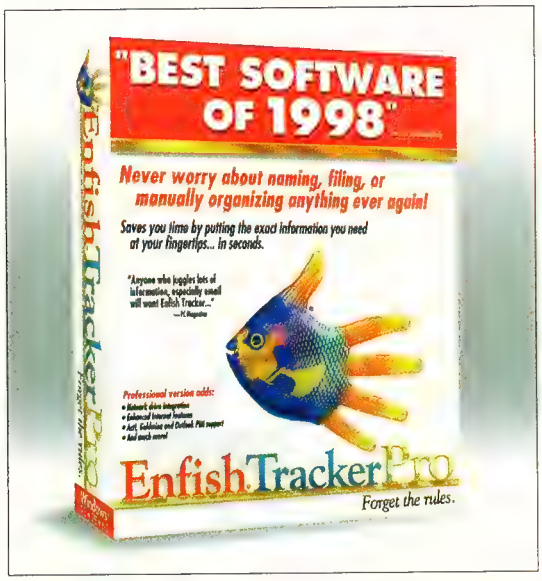
Enfish TrackerPro ($135) automatically organises, tracks, cross-references and links related information from disparate sources such as e-mail, Web sites you have visited and documents on your PC's hard drive.

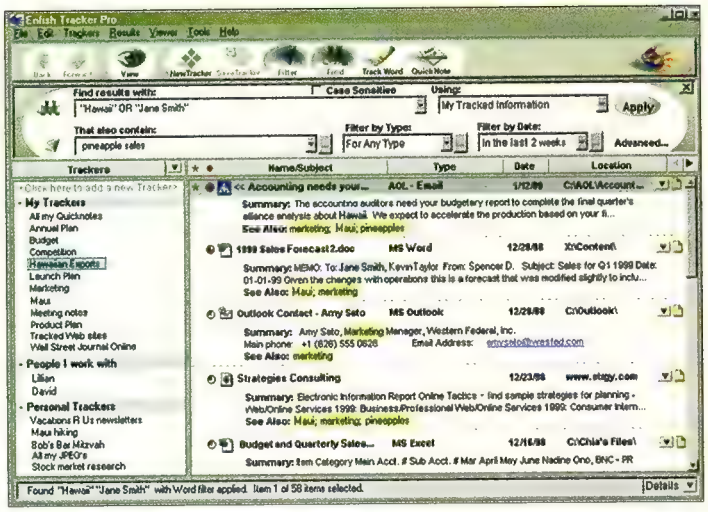
Tracked information is searchable, and users may view a summary of each piece of catalogued information without having to launch the relevant software program.

Enfish TrackerPro runs on Windows 95, 98 and NT 4.0, and supports a range of e-mail programs including Eudora, Outlook Express, Netscape Communicator and Lotus Notes.

A 45-day trial version of the software is available at www.enfish.com.

NST Worldwide
Phone: (02) 9499 2900
www.nst.com.au





Enfish TrackerPro automatically organises and cross references information from your PC, e-mail and Web sites you have visited

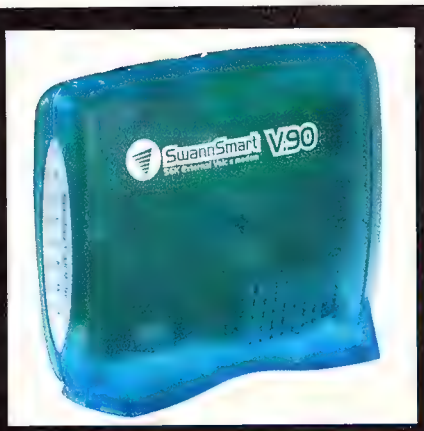
Win a SwannSmart 56K modem worth $210!

Apple started it all with the "Bondi Blue" iMac, and now PC buyers everywhere have a choice of translucent-cased peripherals instead of the standard beige.

Melbourne-based modem manufacturer Swann Communications has released a translucent version of its SwannSmart 56K External Voice modem. Valued at $210, the SwannSmart 56K modem features fax and answering machine capabilities and comes with WebWorks 99, a CD-ROM containing a beginner's guide to the Internet and a modem installation tutorial.

We have five SwannSmart 56K modems to give away — all you have to do is put on your designer hat and tell us (in 25 words or less) what the next PC design fad will be and why. The five most creative entries will each win a modem.

E-mail your entries to pcworld@idg.com.au or mail them to SwannSmart Modem Competition, PC World, PO Box 295, St Leonards NSW 1590. Don't forget to include your name and a contact phone number.



The competition closes July 26th, 1999. Entries will be judged on July 27th, 1999 by the editor and publisher of PC World. The winners will be notified by phone and their names published in PC World, September 1999.

TOOL OFFERS SMES Y2K WORK STRUCTURE

Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that haven't yet attempted to become Y2K-compliant may be interested in Info2000 Workbench — a new software tool that presents a methodology for year 2000 projects.

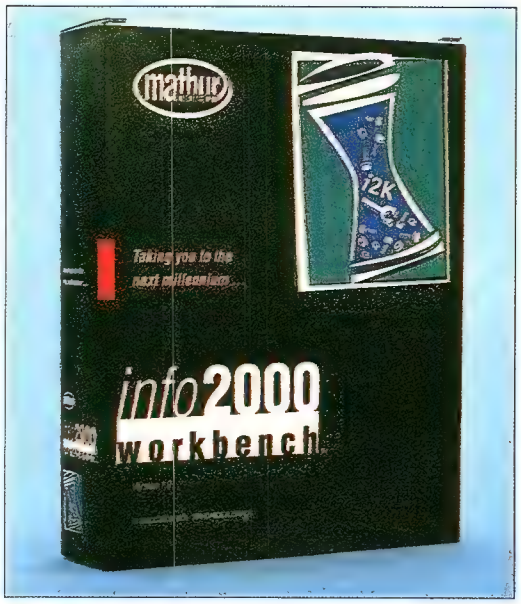
Developed by Mathur Infotech in conjunction with Standards Australia, Info2000 Workbench offers a structured process for an SME to become Y2K-compliant. "Info2000 Workbench enables organisations to define a clear start and end point for their Y2K activities," according to a statement from Mathur Infotech.

Central to the software is a methodology designed by the two companies, called The Standard Year 2000 Methodology. The methodology recommends a project be created for each application or component of an organisation which may be affected by the Y2K problem. The program includes document templates and screens to assist in carrying out such projects, say Mathur Infotech.

Info2000 Workbench does not include diagnostic or testing tools, but supports the use of any such software.

Info2000 Workbench is priced at $399.

Marketing Results
Phone: (02) 9899 5888
www.mathur.com.au



Info2000 Workbench: a methodology tool aimed at assisting SMEs in becoming Y2K-compliant

AN ALTERNATIVE OFFICE

A new office suite of software has been released in Australia. Called Ability Office 98 and developed by UK company Ability Plus Software, the suite features four applications: Ability Write 98, Ability Spreadsheet 98, Ability Database 98 and Ability Draw.

Ability Office is priced at $129.95, and aims to offer what users value, says the company, rather than features included in other office suites that are rarely used by small business and home users.

A new suite of office software from UK company Ability Plus Software

The full installation takes 20MB of disk space and each application shares a pool of components. The suite's interface features a Microsoft "look and feel", and the Ability Database is compatible with a range of data sources including Microsoft Access, Excel, FoxPro and ODBC.

A 30-day trial of Ability Office is available from the developer's Web site, www.ability.com.

QV Software
Phone: (02) 9748 2555
www.europress.com.au

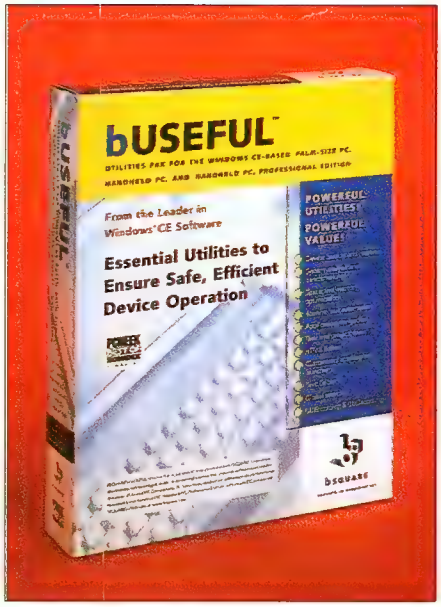
USEFUL bUSEFUL

US-based BSQUARE has released a utility software suite that aims to keep Windows CE-based devices running shipshape.

bUSEFUL Utilities Pak ($149) is aimed at IT and mobile professionals and provides 12 software applications for a range of functions including benchmarking and data backup.

One application lets Windows CE users uncover and delete space-wasting items, while another provides a customised start menu. Users can also automate routine tasks (such as dialling up an ISP) with another program. A global search function plus an HTML editor are also included in the suite.

Marketing Results
Phone: (02) 9899 5888
www.bsquare.com



bUSEFUL Utilities Pak: a new utilities suite for Windows CE devices

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ZETAFAX UPGRADES

A new version of fax server software Zetafax is now available, Sirius Technologies has announced.

According to Sirius, the most significant enhancement that Zetafax 6 sports is a Least Cost Routing module, which enables Zetafax servers to make decisions as to the most appropriate way to send a fax (particularly useful for multi-site organisations).

The new version also features a redesigned interface and now provides the ability to use the same fax application and interface for laptop and desktop PCs, says Sirius.

Zetafax integrates with Microsoft Small Business Server and Windows 98, 95 and NT. A five-user licence is priced at $895. A trial version is available at Sirius' Web site.

Sirius Technologies
Phone: (02) 9424 2000
www.sirius.com.au

Zetafax 6: new version now features Least Cost Routing

FAX FOR FREE

With the launch of two new enterprise versions of its fax software, US company GFI has released a freeware version of its program.

A five-user version of FAXmaker, which was normally priced at $US349, is now available as a free download at www.gfifax.com (it's also on the cover CD of this issue).

GFI recently released two new versions of the fax server software, upgrades of FAXmaker for Exchange and FAXmaker for Networks/SMTP.

FAXmaker for Exchange 6.0 includes new features such as remote user, least cost routing and enhanced document rendering, claims GFI. Added features for users include Outlook fax forms with options for scheduling and resolution.

FAXmaker for Networks/SMTP, meanwhile, does not require users to have an Exchange server, but nevertheless supports the Business fax field in Outlook.

The new version includes support for Lotus Notes and Microsoft Word mail merge.

A 10-user licence for either FAXmaker Exchange or FAXmaker Networks/SMTP is priced at $840.

GFI Australia
Phone: (08) 8351 9780
www.gficomms.com.au

IMSI RELEASES TWO NEW GRAPHICS PACKAGES

IMSI has recently introduced two new products to market — MasterClips 3D Artist and Presentation Graphics Studio.

MasterClips 3D Artist ($69.95) enables users to create 3D clip art from ready-made 3D models. Users simply choose a 3D model (a lion for example), and resize or rotate it to their desire, add light and shadow and then apply a style such as cartoon, watercolour or charcoal says IMSI.

The application comes with 500 3D models and more are available at MasterClips3D.com (http://masterclips3d.com), to which registered users of MasterClips 3D Artist will receive a year's subscription.

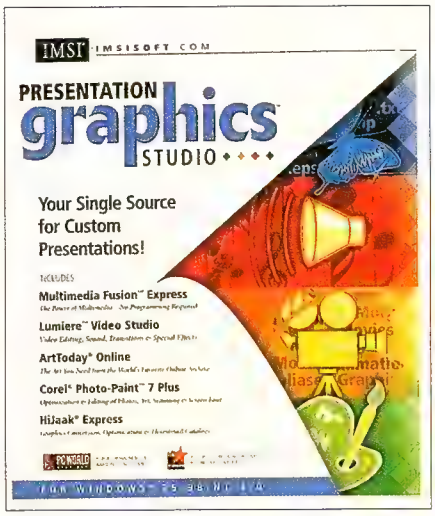
Presentation Graphics Studio ($79.95), meanwhile, is a bundle of programs for the creation of business presentations.

Four graphics and multimedia programs are included in the suite plus a one-year subscription to the IMSI clip art Web site, Art Today Online.

Presentation Graphics Studio includes: Corel Photo-Paint 7 Plus, Hijaak Express (a graphics conversion program), Lumiere Video Studio (a video editing package), and Multimedia Fusion Express for multimedia programming.

Art Today Online (www.arttoday.com) holds more than 750,000 images, fonts and sounds in more than 4000 categories, according to IMSI. pcw

IMSI Australia
Phone: (02) 9319 7533
www.imsi.com.au



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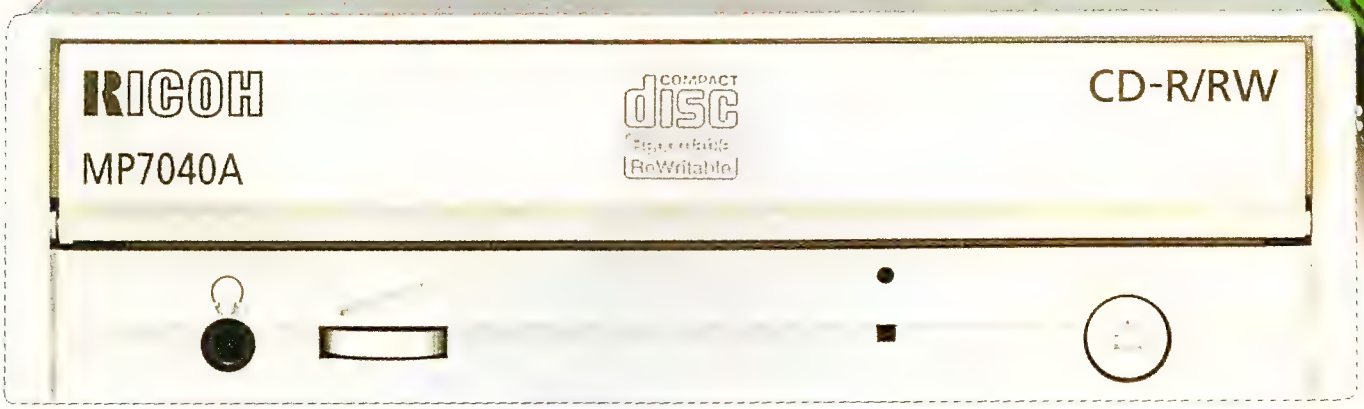

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- 1 CD-R disc
- DirectCD packet write UDF software
- Easy CD Creator premastering software

Harvey Norman
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HN19761

CAMEDIA C-830L DIGITAL CAMERA AND P-330E DIGITAL PHOTO PRINTER

Perennially a favourite among hobbyists, the home photo lab is a source of great satisfaction and enjoyment to people from all walks of life. Olympus is a name synonymous with the camera industry and it is no surprise that its new Camedia C-830L compact digital camera and Camedia P-330E digital photo printer combine to provide a complete photo solution for both novice and experienced users.

The technology incorporated into the camera is designed to make picture taking easier via features such as the 1.8in colour LCD display, four image quality modes, 2x and 3x close-up functions and manual exposure compensation. Olympus tells us that due to the 1,310,000-pixel CCD, the C-830L is the equivalent of a 35mm camera with a 36mm lens. Taking pictures is just a matter of aiming and shooting in the desired mode.

The Autofocus range is from 0.1m to infinity, with the macro mode recommended for shooting subjects within 0.5m, and standard mode for more distant objects. There is no manual aperture or shutter speed setting, but the program auto exposure will operate the shutter at speeds between 0.5 seconds and 1/500 of a second using aperture settings F2.8, F5.6 or F11. For low-light situations there is an Auto Flash mode that will automatically trigger the flash as necessary. There is also a red-eye reduction mode.

The camera ships with a 4MB 3.3V SmartMedia card which is capable of holding at least 60 shots in standard mode, 18 shots or more in HQ mode, 9 shots in SHQ or one uncompressed shot in SHQ mode. SmartMedia cards are available as options in configurations up to 32MB (32MB = approximately $300) which means you can store 480 or more standard shots on a single card. In general, the camera is fun to use and creates better-than-acceptable shots,

although I did find that close-up shots seem better than distant shots. The C-830L plugs into your computer via a serial connection allowing you to access the shots on the camera using the supplied Camedia software. There is also a video-out facility to display your shots on a television set. The only real gripe I have about this camera is the way it goes through batteries, making ownership of rechargeable batteries and a charger a must. The C-830L retails for $999 and ships with all necessary cables, Camedia software and a 4MB SmartMedia card.

In designing the Camedia P-330E digital photo printer, Olympus has created an A6, five-in-one printer that will print directly from a Windows PC or Mac, print video frames grabbed from a VCR, camcorder or TV, and read and transfer SmartMedia card data from the printer to a Win 9x PC.

An upgrade of the P-300, the P-330E utilises a three-pass dye-sublimation process to produce its printouts and boasts the equivalent resolution capabilities of a 2400dpi inkjet printer. When I printed the photos I took with the C-830L camera they were of comparable quality to a "normal" photograph. The P-330E is adept at drawing data not only from your PC (like a standard printer), but also from the SmartMedia card that is in the C-830L camera, as well as from all other Camedia models with the exception of the C-800L and C-400L. Other features include Video-In and Video-Out terminals that allow you to print from images displayed on a TV.

New capabilities over the P-300 are multi-image output on four, nine, and 16 cut-sticker sheets, manual sharpness adjustment, a preview mode for checking an image on a monitor, a cropping function to create zoom effects, index and mirror outputs as well as multiple print output.

One unique feature is the laminated output capability, that allows you to print on special "passport grade" paper. Photo printouts take approximately two minutes and cost around a dollar per print. Consumables in the form of the P-60E paper set include 60 paper sheets and a ribbon cartridge for $59.

- Spiro Hionis

Camedia C-830L digital camera
Price: $999
Camedia P-330E digital photo printer
Price: $999
Olympus
Distributor: R Guntz (Photographic)
Phone: (02) 9935 6600
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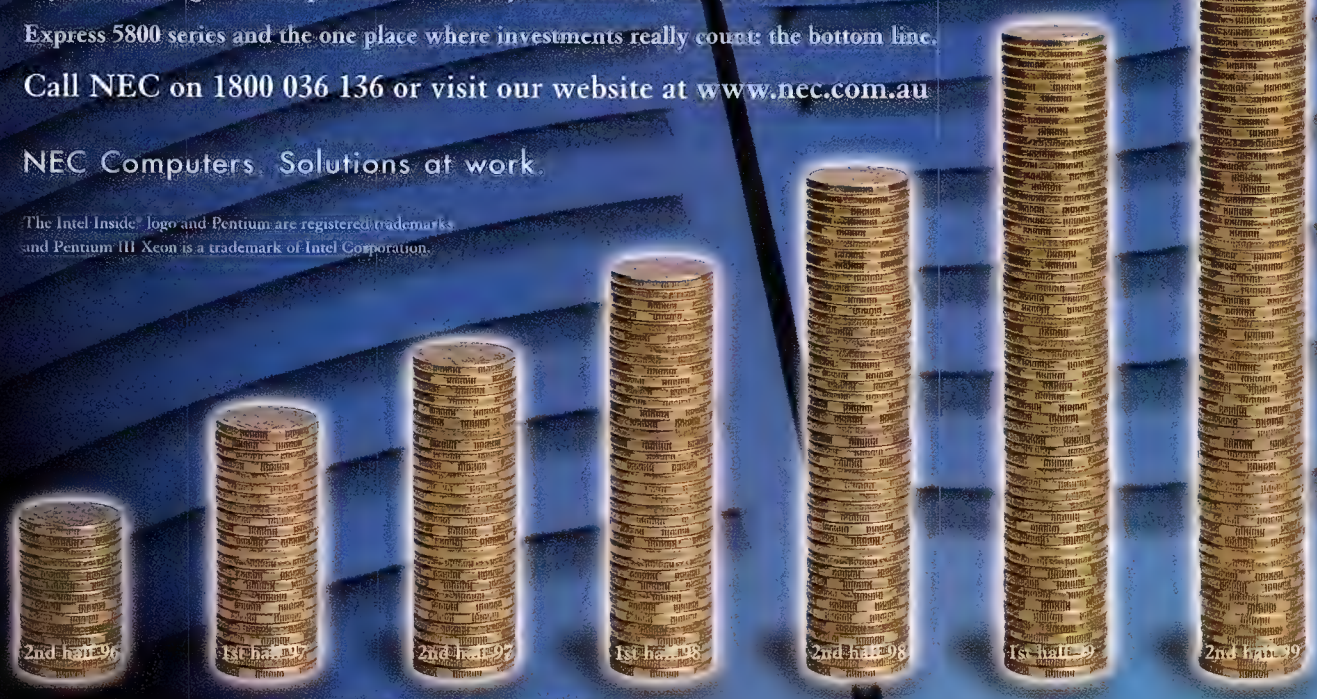

NEC Express 5800 server sales since introduction of Express 5800 Series

C PEN

One of the most exciting products at this year's PC IT 99 was C Technologies' new C Pen. Unlike any ordinary pen, this one incorporates a digital camera, OCR software and a computer to provide you with a lightweight (100g including battery) and very portable scanning tool.

The C Pen works by taking pictures of the text and then processing it through its built-in OCR software. It contains 8MB flash memory, of which 6MB can be used to store up to 3000 A4 pages of text, and an Intel StrongArm processor, which runs at 100MHz.

To scan text you simply hold the pen as you would a normal pen, and slide it across the text just as if you were using a highlighter, making sure the tip of the pen is flush with the scanning surface, while pressing the trigger. You can scan text either from left to right or from right to left. The

pen can handle a maximum of 100 characters a second so you can zip through your scanning in no time at all. The pen's accuracy is also very impressive — most of the text I scanned from text books and magazines gave me around 90 per cent accuracy (it couldn't read my handwriting, but then again, neither can anyone else!) The C Pen is limited to reading (printed) characters between 7-18 points in size.

Transferring files from the C Pen to a PC can be accomplished via the built-in infrared interface. Of course your PC will also need to be infrared-equipped in order to connect with the pen. To transfer the files to your PC you simply install the C Pen software and then drag and drop files to and from the C Pen. Another impressive feature of the pen is its storage feature. You may utilise the 6MB flash memory to transfer large files that would not fit on a floppy disk.

The C Pen is the perfect tool for those who need to collect a lot of information on the go.

- Elias Plastiras

C Pen
C Technologies
Price: $799
Distributor: GMDC
Phone: (03) 6334 3877
www.ctechnologies.se

WACOM INTUOS GRAPHICS TABLET

Tablets have been around for as long as there has been graphics software. Their application has fallen into two categories — as a large menu device for entering commands into complex programs like CAD packages, or as a computerised pen to make the drawing experience on a computer more natural.

A trial of the Wacom Intuos graphics tablet system has shown us that tablet technology has even surpassed the pen and paper experience.

The Intuos installed easily on Windows NT 4.0. The mouse still worked, but was pushed aside. The Intuos comes with a 9 x 12in active area, which is about the size of an A4 page, a stylus and a mouse. Both the stylus and mouse are cordless, which makes their use far more natural and relaxed than their tethered cousins.

The stylus points with an accuracy of +/- 0.25mm, has a data rate of 200pps and has 1024 pressure levels. This is more than enough to be able to draw on your computer with the same ease and expression as a pen on paper. The stylus even has an eraser on the top.

The tablet comes with software for the advanced user, which tailors almost every function imaginable. The best thing here is that you will probably never need to use it; the defaults straight out of the box gave immediate results. It also has a function button area where you can easily program your own quick-keys. This can be quite a timesaver.

In Photoshop, without doing anything special you can now draw with a natural pencil motion, but applying pressure on the stylus increases the lineweight giving a far more expressive result. With the advanced options for controlling pressure sensitivity, tilt, click speed and more you can make the stylus work the way you do.

It does take a little getting used to. The stylus position relates to an exact position on the screen — it does not "scoot" like a mouse. But once you get the hang of it you will never look back.

- Paul Hemmings

Intuos Graphics Tablet
Wacom
Price: $796
Distributor: VideoBytes Australia
Phone: (03) 9348 9177
www.mpx.com.au/~vbytes/wacom

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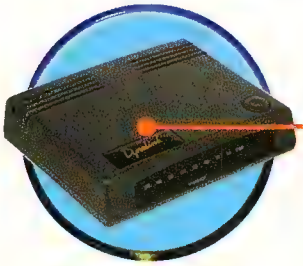
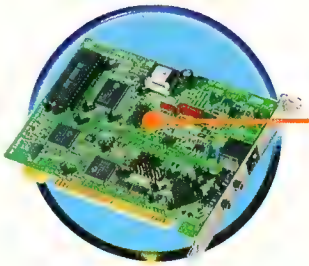


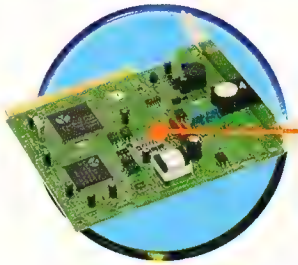
VoiceDesk56 Pro

EXTERNAL 56K V.90



VoiceCard56 Pro

INTERNAL ISA 56K V.90



PCI Card 56

INTERNAL PCI 56K V.90

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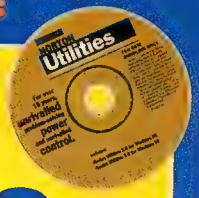

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AUTOEYE

Normally when reviewing an application, much research has to be undertaken, the product learnt, heaps of readme files perused and Web sites scoured for further information. So it was somewhat of a novelty to review an application that does its thing with a single mouse click!

AutoEye works either as a stand-alone program or as a plug-in for Photoshop, PhotoDeluxe, Paint Shop Pro, CorelDraw and Fractal Design Painter. In fact, in theory, it works with any application that supports the Photoshop Plugin SDK (for example it works like a charm in Micrografx Picture Publisher).

Simply, AutoEye is an image enhancing application (or plug-in) that can help you reclaim lost colour and detail in images. With a single click it enhances your images automatically to bring out the best there is to offer. While there are many image-enhancing plug-ins and programs available — probably more in this genre than any other — the majority of them are designed for the experienced digital dabbler. AutoEye in contrast, whilst still allowing absolute fine-tuning of the enhancement process via Contrast, Saturation, Brightness, Noise, RGB and Sharpening tools etc, can also perform a "best guess" on a scanned image or digital photo.

The enhanced image on the right was created automatically with a single mouse click

And its best guess is pretty damn good, I can tell you!

Installation is as simple as clicking a setup file and telling AutoEye your plugin directory for whichever application you use. As mentioned, if you don't use Photoshop or a similar supported application, AutoEye will run as a stand-alone package giving exactly the same results. It also directly supports scanners enabling images to be directly brought into the program.

At time of writing, pricing and distribution details in Australia have not been set for AutoEye (the US price is $US99), however details can be found on their Web site at www.autofx.com. A demo version should be available for download by the time you read this. AutoEye is available for Windows 95/98/NT and the Power Macintosh.

- David Hague

AutoEye
AutoF/X
Price: $US99
www.autofx.com

LIFE TV

LifeView is a well known brand when it comes to multimedia video products, offering a wide range of cameras, TV tuners and capture devices. The company's latest product is the Life TV USB TV/capture box. And as the name suggests, it has capture capabilities as well as a built-in TV tuner which allows you to watch TV or video in sizes ranging from 80 x 60 to 640 x 480 pixels.

These capabilities are housed in a tiny box which connects to your PC via a USB cable. Power and video signals are provided via the USB, while audio is fed through the line-out jack of the unit to your sound card. Standard connections on the unit include composite video, s-video, antenna input and audio line-out. It also has a 5V power output, which can be used as a source of power for devices such as eyeball cameras. A 0.5 watt eight-ohm speaker is also located in the box, as is a snapshot button which allows you to capture still images up to 640 x 480 pixels.

The Life TV unit supports all TV standards and captures video in the AVI format. Testing the unit with the supplied internal antenna proved a futile task, but by plugging an external antenna into the unit I was able to receive channels 10, 9 and 7, although the pictures were still a little snowy and the audio quite fuzzy. The reception was helped slightly by placing the unit at the furthest possible point away from the computer. Motion video capture through the composite jack produced adequate quality, although the audio synchronisation was still a little off and there were some dropped frames which hampered the smoothness of the playback.

The TV tuner will automatically scan the airwaves and try to find the best possible reception, but there is no fine-tuning setting that allows the user to adjust the picture manually. Still images can be captured either using the hardware button or through the software interface and multiple shots can be taken by repeatedly pressing the button.

The Life TV USB unit is a user-friendly product — perfect for the user who needs basic still image or motion capturing capabilities, and at $299 it is very inexpensive. Minimum system requirements are a USB port, Pentium 166, 16MB RAM and Windows 98, but for adequate performance a more powerful PC is essential. A large hard disk is also desirable for this type of product.

- Elias Plastiras

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CORELDRAW 9

CorelDraw 9's natural-media drawing tools simulate the look and feel of a real brushstroke

At first glance, CorelDraw 9 and Photo-Paint, its bundled image editor, look much like their predecessors. But Corel has made dozens of welcome tweaks to help the package retain its standing as a top choice for intermediate to advanced home and business users. Among my favourites (in a preproduction copy) is the new so-called artistic-media tool that lets you draw with a tapered, brushlike line, yielding computer art that doesn't look like computer art. Also outstanding is Photo-Paint's profusion of new special-effects filters, including ones that simulate the look of watercolours, pen and ink, and even stained glass. (Many of these effects can also be applied directly within CorelDraw.)

As a purely practical refinement, both CorelDraw and Photo-Paint now let you work with multiple colour palettes (say, the Pantone palette used by graphics pros and Netscape Navigator's palette for displaying Web graphics) simultaneously. This is a boon when you're creating a single graphic for use in multiple media. In addition, both applications can export files in PDF format, permitting anyone with a copy of Adobe's free Acrobat Reader to view and print your creations.

Dropped from CorelDraw 9 is a 3D graphics application called CorelDream 3D that was in the previous edition but was never a highlight.

CorelDraw 9 lists for $1099 ($599 for a competitive upgrade), and it comes with Corel's usual cornucopia of fonts, clip art, and supporting utilities, including Canto's Cumulus image browser, a useful app for organising and finding images anywhere on your hard disk.

- Harry McCracken

CorelDraw 9
Corel
Price: $1099; Upgrade: $599
Phone: 1800 658 850
www.corel.com.au

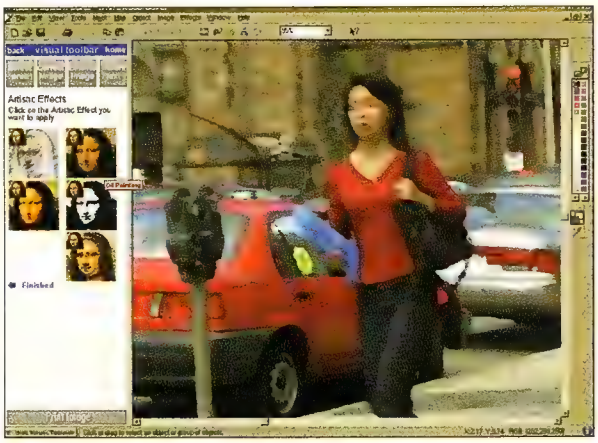
IGRAFX BUSINESS

Micrografx has really gone back to the drawing board with iGrafx Business, which differs substantially from its immediate forebear, Micrografx Graphics Suite. Aimed at business users who aren't graphics experts, iGrafx offers a versatile collection of tools, but doesn't match the overall range and richness of CorelDraw 9's offerings. Still, it has the edge in two important respects — it's easier to use and, at $370, it's much cheaper. I reviewed a shipping copy.

The suite provides integrated modules for drawing and making flowcharts, for image editing, for producing 3D graphics, and for managing image files. You can accomplish most common tasks with the Visual Toolbar, which provides you with simple, intelligible, step-by-step explanations. Also helpful is the generous supply of wizards, including ones for preparing images for the Web and for creating 3D animation effects.

iGrafx Business would be even more inviting if it contained more templates, and if its iGrafx Share image browser module didn't unaccountably lack the simple Visual Toolbar interface. Despite these drawbacks, this bundle's a good fit for folks in the market for midrange graphics power at a midrange price.

- Harry McCracken



The visual toolbar (right side of screen) steers you through many of iGrafx Business's features

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Micrografx
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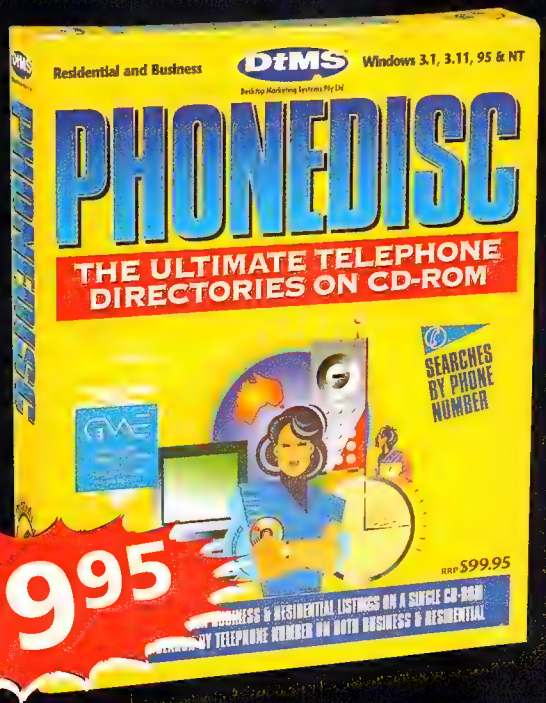

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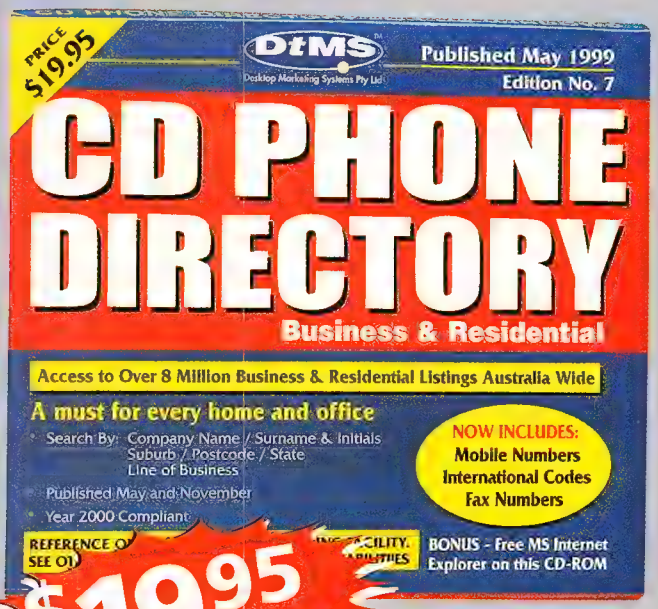

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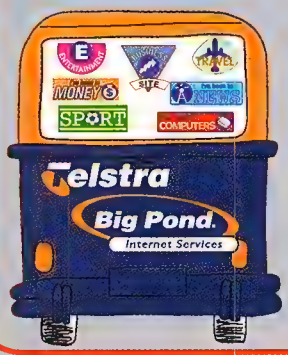

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PAGEMAKER 6.5 PLUS

Until recently, small-business and home-office users who lacked professional graphics expertise were limited to inexpensive, simple programs like Microsoft's $179 Publisher 2000. Now, Adobe is reaching out to novices who want to create eye-catching documents for commercial print runs.

While not a major upgrade, PageMaker 6.5 Plus substantially enhances the excellent publishing tools in PageMaker 6.5. A new Template Palette contains about 300 layouts. A new Picture Palette affords access to a good-size library (4700 illustrations, 300 stock photos) of high-quality clip art.

In my tests using a preproduction copy, both Palette features were so easy to use that I didn't miss the wizards that other packages supply.

Pick a picture: PageMaker 6.5 Plus's new Picture Palette makes adding high-quality canned art a simple point-and-click operation

However, a printed list of the templates and clip art to supplement Picture Palette's keyword search feature would have been nice.

Other goodies include a handy Microsoft Office-style toolbar, a Publisher 98 (but not 2000) file converter, and a limited edition of Adobe Photoshop 5.0.

PageMaker vets will probably find the $169 upgrade worthwhile, if only for the clip art library. But those who've shied away from PageMaker because of its high-end reputation — and $1295 price tag — may also want to take a look. Publisher 2000 is cheaper and easier to use, but PageMaker's colour tools and widespread service bureau support make it a better investment if you'd like to use a commercial printing service for better-quality projects or large print runs.

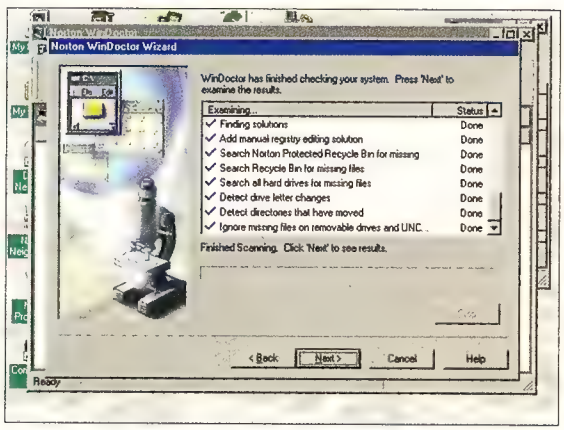
- Richard Jantz

PageMaker 6.5 Plus
Adobe
Price: $945
Upgrade price: $169-$479
Phone: (02) 9778 4100
www.pacific.adobe.com

NORTON SYSTEMWORKS 2

Windows file systems tangle up and melt down so often that keeping your PC in working order can quickly become a second job. Norton SystemWorks 2 is a first-rate tool kit for just that chore. Its easy-to-use desktop panel provides access to the current versions of Norton Utilities, AntiVirus, CleanSweep, CrashGuard, and Web Services. I evaluated a shipping copy.

Depending on how much of it you install, the $229 suite gobbles 130MB to 160MB of hard disk space, but its components can remove at least that much Windows and Web junk. Start with WinDoctor to sweep up common Windows detritus: shortcuts to erased apps, lost ActiveX code strings, and post-crash file fragments. This version of WinDoctor cleans up corrupted Windows Registry entries (often resulting from system hang-ups) better than its predecessor did.



Up close and personal: SystemWorks' WinDoctor component scrutinises everything from shortcuts to Windows Registry entries

Similarly, the new CleanSweep tidies up orphaned and duplicate files. It's much better at uninstalling all of an application's components than Windows' Add/Remove Programs. SystemWorks 2 also resurrects WipeInfo, Norton's once-popular DOS tool for removing all traces of erased files from your hard drive.

CrashGuard gives you the best shot yet at saving your work and reviving crashing applications. It can even drop you back to where you were on the Internet when your apps crashed. And Norton AntiVirus 5.0 throws in a year of virus immunisation updates, plus protection against rogue ActiveX code and Java applets that can scramble hard drives or permit data theft.

SystemWorks' memory-resident monitors can conduct regular maintenance automatically. But load selectively — the suite can be intrusive and hog resources. Better to opt for, say, AntiVirus and CrashGuard and run other tools periodically by clicking on the easy-to-follow wizards.

- Mike Hogan

Norton SystemWorks 2
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RELIGION

PRAYERWHEEL

www.prayerwheel.com

In the hustle and bustle of modern life it's becoming more and more common for time-strapped souls to outsource daily tasks such as cleaning and ironing.

Following the same stream of thought, a US-based Web site is offering to those inclined an automated prayer service.

At around 10 US cents a day, the PrayerWheel will say a daily prayer on your behalf. As its creators explain: "With a computer remembering to say prayers daily, you will never again miss saying your prayers or dedicating them for that special purpose.

"People will obtain a feeling of comfort and security, knowing that their prayers and millions of other prayers are being offered to God, every day all of the time."

Prayers for seven religions are on offer and subscribers to the service can log on to the site and see which prayer is being said.

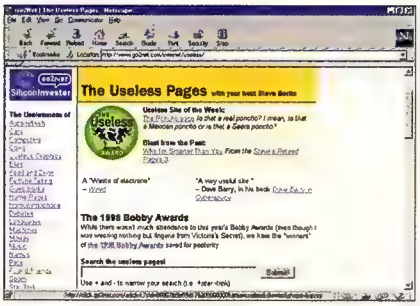
A note of warning: although the prayers are guaranteed to be said daily, the PrayerWheel's operators will not guarantee that they will be heard or granted by God.

FUN

THE USELESS PAGES

www.go2net.com/internet/useless/

There may come a time in your Web surfing existence — unbelievable as it may sound — that you find the Net no longer has anything to offer. In a time of crisis such as this, PC World recommends without hesitation a visit to The Useless Pages.



With host Steve Berlin, The Useless Pages presents a comical guide to the most useless of the Web (although some would debate how useless these Web sites are — who wouldn't want to learn 2000 uses for peanut butter?).

Once you exhaust the current list of useless pages, there's a searchable database of "Retired pages" waiting for you.

FOOD

WOOLWORTHS

www.woolworths.com.au

Woolworths "The Fresh Food People" want you to eat well and it's evident in this well-designed and comprehensive Web site. If the nutritional value of meals is on your mind and you can't get out of a steak-and-three-veg rut, this is the site for you.

Planning meals should be as easy as setting up your personal

preferences — the kinds of food you like and dislike (if you're aiming for low-fat meals, for example) — and browsing through the site's wealth of recipes. By way of icons, the site will then indicate which recipes include foods you like, dislike or are bad nutritionally for your needs.

With the click of the mouse button, recipes are added to a meal plan which can be generated into a shopping list.

Woolworths will have the total solution operating in the coming months when it nationally rolls out Woolworths Homeshop — an online ordering service which will see your groceries delivered to your work or home. (Check the site for suburbs where the service is already operating.)

GAMING

HYPERACTIVE 3.0

www.hyperactive.com

If the words "extreme gamer" describe you, then Hyperactive 3.0 is the Web site where you should be. This Australian site features reviews on the latest games and over 28,000 cheatcodes for more than 1500 games.

The site covers games for nine platforms including N64, SNES, Sega Megadrive/Genesis, Sega 32X, Sega Saturn, PSX, PC CD-ROM, Mac and even arcade games.

Hyperactive also offers loads of previews on the latest games plus the latest updates on gaming industry news. If you're so inclined visit Hyperactive's very own chat room where you can talk to other gamers from around the world.

-Steven Ngo

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Web report

House-hunting — INTERNET STYLE

If the plaster is falling into your morning cereal or the roar of a jumbo is disturbing your sleep, you may have considered making the move to a new abode. With an increasing number of real estate agents offering their property wares online, you can locate your dream home sooner, and pick up some tips on how to avoid purchasing pitfalls

By Amanda Conroy

House-hunting is a time-consuming pastime — scouring the classifieds every day, peering into real estate windows and taking down notes and getting up at the crack of dawn on Saturday mornings to be first in line to inspect a house. And I should know — I have moved often enough (but Sydney's rental market is another story).

But I must admit the growing number of Internet sites offering information on real estate listings made the last relocation attempt easier. The online real estate offerings don't end with a post code and a contact number; many sites provide additional services including mortgage calculators, daily interest updates, and tips on how to negotiate contracts and suburb demographics.

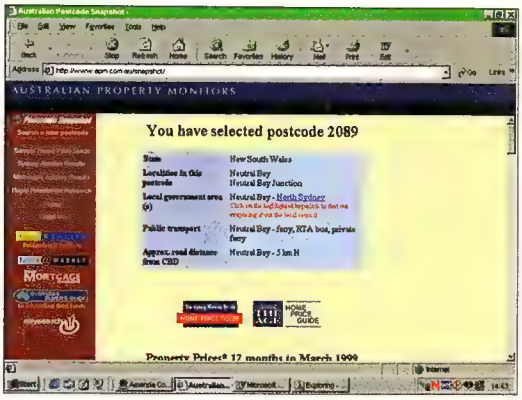
With the online real estate e-commerce market growing exponentially there is a wealth of sites available from individual realtors. Most of the sites selected have a national focus and will get you started on the path to your dream home sooner. They may even cut down the time you spend pounding the pavement.

If you are living in NSW or Victoria, one of the best sites to check out is the Fairfax@market site (**www.market.fairfax.com.au/property**) — and even if you are residing in another state, some of the additional services offered on this site make it a useful port of call. The Property and Business section is linked to the classifieds section of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*, and to access the information users have to log on (free of charge) to the general classifieds site. Once you have a logon name and password, though, you are free to peruse the services. Some incur a charge, but you can be notified of this before you request the information.

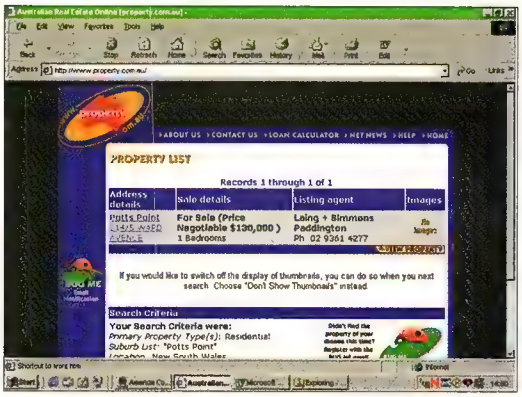
Most of the property searches include a Net Inspection, which links you to the realtor's Web site and the property advertised in the classifieds, often including additional contact information, inspection times and photographs of the property. To reduce time spent continuously searching the site, an AdAlert feature allows you to nominate fields you are interested in (for example, suburb, price range and location) and e-mails you daily ads from the paper which fit your description. I found this a great time-saving factor and it allows you to get the jump on the best properties.

But beyond the search for a property, the Fairfax site also includes valuable links to other sites, such as a building advice service provided by the Royal Australian Institute of Architects. There you can get the low-down on inspection reports and what to look out for (especially dampness, termites and borers and cracking).

The latest interest rates are available from *Your Mortgage Magazine*. These are updated daily and range from variable to fixed loans, from lenders across Australia. Like most of the sites featured here, a home loan calculator is provided so you can get a ballpark figure of what you can afford. General advice on buying and selling at auctions, conveyancing information as well as landlord and tenant tips, are provided by the Real Estate Institute of NSW. A great place to start for important background facts.



Australian Property Managers (left) provide an overview of suburb property prices. Property.com.au (right) will bug you when your dream home comes along



If you need some demographic information, or just want a snapshot of a suburb, then the Australian Property Market site (**www.apm.com.au**) is a useful resource (this site is linked with Fairfax@market).

Type in your chosen postcode and the site displays property prices for the last twelve months showing the average, median, and median changes in houses and units. Click on the auction results (sorry, only Sydney and Melbourne) for up-to-the-minute pricing information, details of the properties sold, and even which agents are selling. This is a good way to pinpoint real estate agents to follow up with in your chosen location.

The demographic Web page covers everything from population size, age and country of birth to religion, occupation and education. The statistics on nature of occupancy, monthly loan repayments and weekly rent provide a good idea of what you can expect to pay.

On a national level there are a number of sites operating Australia-wide providing property information covering rentals and sales, residential, commercial, rural and even holiday rentals. Some of the services provided vary from state to state, and often depend upon the extent of online realtor services.

One site that is set to provide increased information as a portal for real estate agents and customers alike is Realestate.com.au (**realestate.com.au**). The site has been through various incarnations in its six-year history and the new service is due to be released shortly.

Karl Bresky, general manager for Network Solutions — the company behind the site — agrees that in terms of geography in Australia there are a lot of disparate players.

"There is a disparity of information at the moment," he said, adding that state-based legislative issues have contributed to the situation, particularly in regard to privacy issues and the collection of information.

Additional services include an auction and inspection timetable, which is broken down into the date, price range and suburb, with a click-through to the property to be auctioned. The "Buying a home" Web page provides a guide on how to begin looking for a property, information on negotiating and signing contracts, plus post-purchase advice. It also explains terms (for example, the difference between private treaty and auctions). Loan and stamp duty calculators are also on hand to help you run through the sums.

Another site offering similar service is Property.com.au (**www.property.com.au**) provided by PMP

Hints for happy house-hunting

SPEED UP YOUR SEARCH
Real estate sites use lots of photos, graphics, and other resource-hungry extras. Without a 56Kbps modem or faster Internet access, you may end up spending more time reaching for the kettle than looking at houses. For serious shopping, conserve your nerves by investing in a fast modem. If you're really strapped for time, view listings as text only, and turn on the photos option only when you find a listing that interests you.

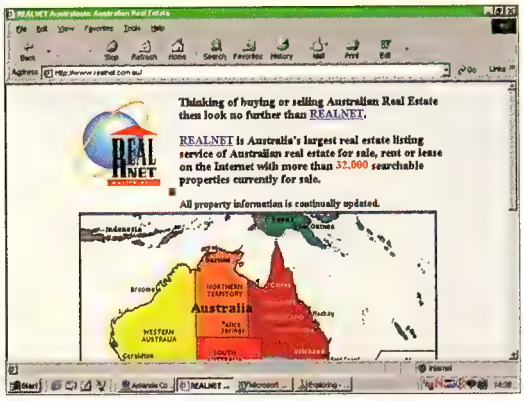
BEWARE THE COOKIE MONSTER
Real estate sites deliver a lot of cookies. If you're using a cookie notification feature, turn it off — or prepare for repetitive strain injuries as you dismiss all the warning messages.

GET PREQUALIFIED FOR A LOAN
It's fast, easy, and free — and it could save precious time and serious disappointment later, especially in a competitive housing market. So get a prequalification letter before you embark on a house hunt in earnest.

PROTECT YOUR PRIVACY
Though experts say getting a loan online is no riskier than getting one in a banker's office, be sure the loan site is secure by looking for the "closed-lock" icon in your browser window. And use common sense: don't leave your browser unattended, clear your cache often and relaunch your browser when you are done with a transaction.

GO LOCAL
Large listing sites are great for getting the big picture, but as you pinpoint your search, visit regional real estate sites as well. You can often link directly to their home pages from the individual listings on the larger sites. Some of the smaller companies have beautifully designed sites that offer more photos and information than you'll find on the national sites. You might also get the edge on new listings, since these are usually posted on the companies' own sites first.

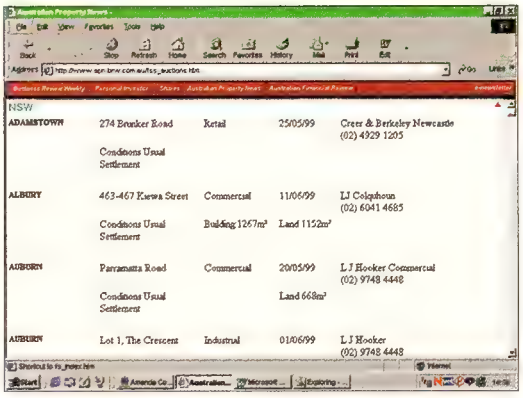
Australian Property Web (left) is geared toward commercial property. RealNet (right) is an online list of EAC multilist agents



Communications. The site covers the same rental and sale categories listed above and includes an e-mail notification system, so if that dream house comes up, you'll be the first to know about it. A reference to the location of national real estate institutes can help you locate realtors and other associated service providers.

If you happen to be moving to another state or capital city, then finding an abode in an unknown place adds a whole new dimension to the house-hunting experience. The Australian Property Web site (**propertyweb.com.au**), oriented towards commercial property, provides great general background information on a number of states and capital cities.

For a national snapshot of what is on the auction block check out the Australian Property News site (**www.apn.brw.com.au**), which is associated with the *Business Review Weekly* site. Based on its magazine format, the focus is on the commercial realm, although published articles can keep you abreast of the state of play in the market. An invaluable service, it provides a listing of national auctions ranging from industrial and commercial, to retail and residential. The interest rates link is updated daily, and the mortgage rates listed cover everything from the major lenders to smaller financial institutions — alphabetically ordered, the list is quite extensive.



If you are not sure whether you can afford that second storey, the money management tools provided on this site should put you on the right track. The mortgage survey calculator can help you find out who is offering the best rates while a savings calculator will help you set out realistic goals to get that deposit sooner.

If you have the basics under your belt and want to hone in on realtors in your locality, the RealNet site (**www.realnet.com.au**) — an online version of EAC multilist agents — is almost a one-stop shop. With so many agents on its books, you are bound to find an online starting point, whether it is in Broome or Nambucca Heads. Features of the site are comparable with the other sites mentioned above, with the properties listed with a reference number linked to the contact Web page, photo and realtor information. pcw

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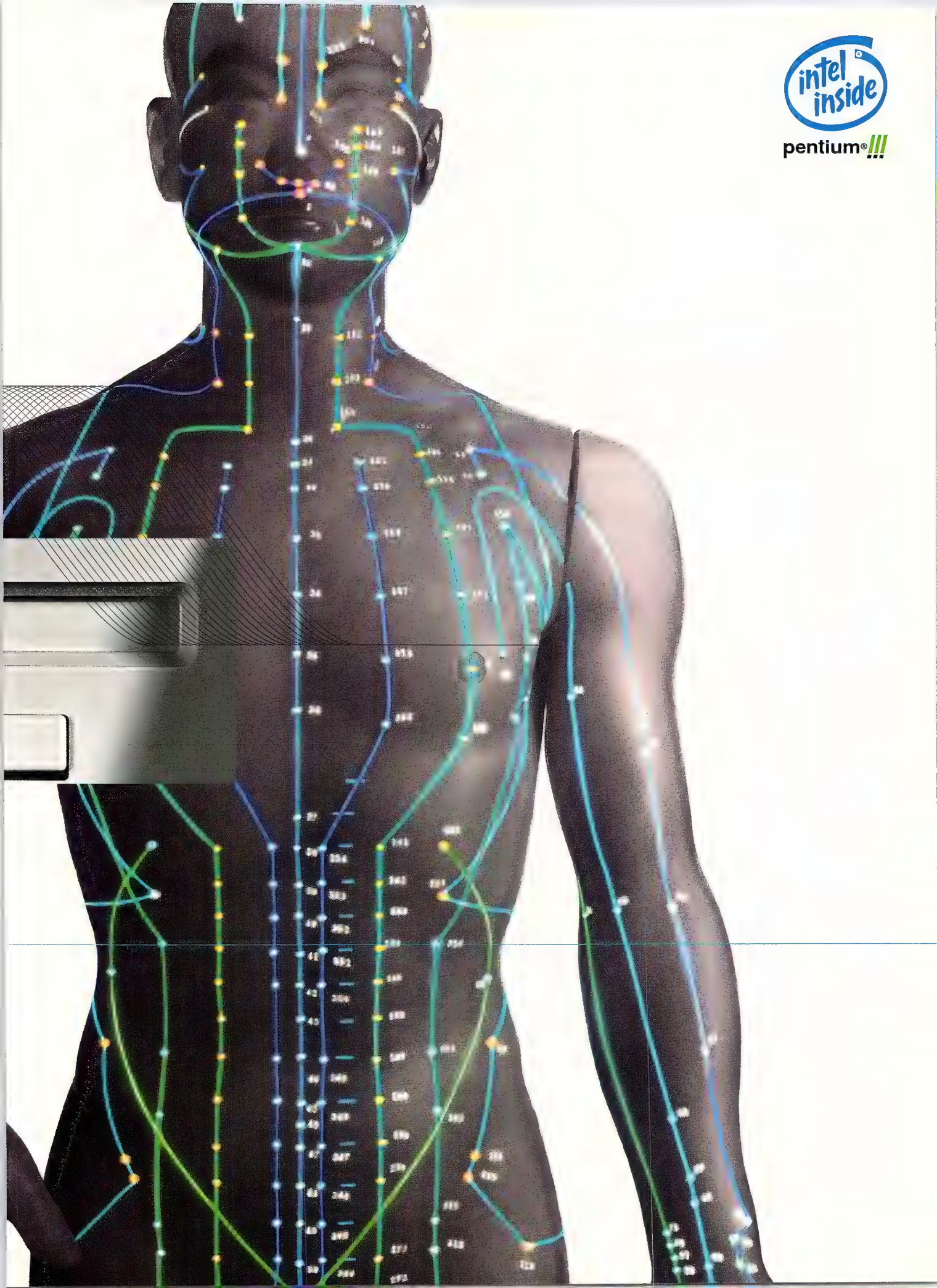
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Feature

With most Web freebies, you get what you pay for. Here are the exceptions from e-mail to MP3

Best free stuff on the Web

ILLUSTRATIONS BY MARC ROSENTHAL

By Harry McCracken and Glenn McDonald

Remember when you would pull into the local service station and the attendant would do more than just take your cash at the counter? Once upon a time, petrol companies were so eager for your business that they'd fill up your tank, check your oil, wipe the windshield and generally make sure your car was running well.

Today's Web portals are like that. They'll give away virtually anything to get you to come back. Want a free e-mail account? (Take two, they're small.) How about some server space for your home page? They'll even manage your personal calendar for you

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Personal business	80
Top tips for Web freeloaders	80

and toss in an online chat area for your virtual community.

But while these services may be free, your time — and bandwidth — isn't. Whether they're splattering ads all over their pages, or pushing book and CD "recommendations", these sites have one goal in mind: to get you to put your money where your mouse is.

That's why we've reviewed the top e-mail, Web hosting and community sites on the Net. Our picks are fast and efficient, feature-rich and advertising-poor — and in most cases, you won't find them on portal sites. We've also tracked down the best free Windows and Web utilities and the best sites for tech support.

We've even dug up a few URLs that help you put the company ISDN line to work during your lunch hour — from movie sites to music players — plus tips on how to stay sane while surfing.

WINDOWS UTILITIES

Unzipping made easy
Aladdin Expander 5.0

Just about everything you download off the Net these days comes in a compressed format, so having a good unzipping utility is essential.

Enter Aladdin Expander. This amazingly versatile piece of freeware handles all PC compression formats, various less common archived and encoded file types, plus the standard Macintosh compression format, StuffIt. Customisation options? Expander can be configured to expand files with a double-click, right-click, or whenever a file is dragged onto the Expander desktop icon.

It's so simple to use that you never have to think about it — and that's the best attribute a utility can have.
www.aladdinsys.com/expander/expander_win_login.html

The big squeeze: start your Net safari with Aladdin Expander, a simple, versatile utility for handling compressed files

Basic Y2K debugging
Norton 2000 BIOS Test and Fix

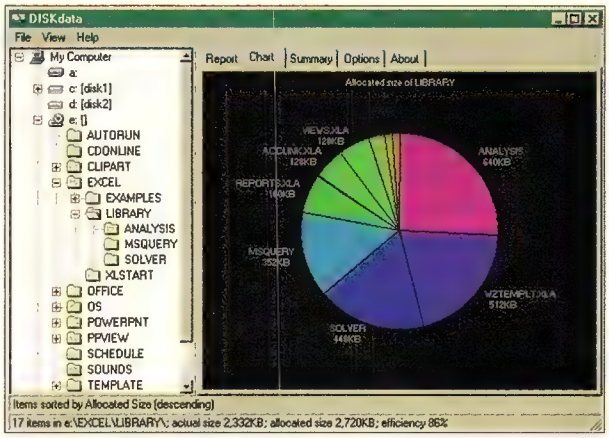
From our better-safe-than-sorry department, Symantec's Norton 2000 BIOS Test and Fix will diagnose and update your system's real-time clock and BIOS. Many apps rely on your PC for the date and time, so this is a critical area to cover. This free 1.3MB BIOS kit is one of several components in Symantec's retail $79 Norton 2000 package.
www.symantec.com/sabu/n2000r/index.html

Watch that memory
Mem Viewer

Ever wonder which apps hog the most memory? Mem Viewer will tell you via a small bar graph window, which you can position anywhere on the desktop. This analysis utility can be handy for determining whether you should add more RAM to your PC. If you find that your most commonly used programs tend to max out memory capacity, consider upgrading. The recent 2.0 release lets you set a miniviewer in the system tray, keeping it out of the way of active windows.
gene6.idegrif.com/index.html

Lord of the files
Diskdata

Think of it this way: you're the landlord of your PC's hard drive. Over the last couple of years, all sorts of tenants have moved in, thrown parties, remodelled and let various backpackers live in the basement. Diskdata helps you figure out what needs to removed, or at least moved to another partition, by showing you exactly how much space each folder or subfolder is taking up, even among separate external drives or large partitioned ones. You can display statistics in report, bar, or pie chart format. The utility comes with nice help files, too.
www.digallery.com/diskdata



Analyse disk: hard drive utility Diskdata makes it easy to see how much space your files consume — and which ones you should whack

Bonus Windows tweaks and tricks

Power Toys

A perennial favourite, Microsoft Power Toys is a 209KB collection of OS outtakes for Windows 95 that never made it into the shipping software. Lots of cool stuff here, especially the Tweak UI Control Panel, which lets you manually adjust things like mouse sensitivity. The Fast Folder feature lets you right-click a folder to get a cascading menu of contents, which can speed up file retrieval considerably. Desktop Menu puts an icon in your system tray, allowing you to access the desktop without the Minimize All Windows hassle. (Windows 98 comes with its own set of Power Toys, included on the installation CD-ROM.)
www.microsoft.com/windows95/downloads/contents/wutoys/w95pwrtoysset/default.asp?RUD=13

Fresh prints

PrintKey

Printing something you can see right there on your monitor should be simple — a piece of cake. But if you've ever tried to print out a single element from a busy Web page or graphics file, you know what a pain it can be. PrintKey uses the old DOS-era Print Screen button to do just that and more. With PrintKey you can print the whole screen, an active window, or just about any piece of desktop real estate you can outline in a rectangle with your mouse. You also get image editing tools so you can adjust contrast, orientation and picture size before printing — all in a 281KB download. PrintKey supports BMP, EMF, GIF, JPEG and WMF formats.
www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Bay/3053/index.html

Digital paper shredding

BCWipe

Deleted files, even those emptied from the Recycle Bin, can remain on your hard drive and be recovered. BCWipe, a no-nonsense electronic "paper shredder", ensures that deleted files are well and truly gone. Once installed, BCWipe gives you extra options when right-clicking to delete a file. "Delete with Wiping" dumps your file, then wipes that area of the hard drive to make sure no data remains. Just make sure you really want to delete a file before you do it, because once BCWipe gets hold of a file, it's gone for good.
www.jetico.sci.fi

WEB UTILITIES

Seek and find others online

ICQ

ICQ is the wildly popular instant-messaging system that enables real-time communication with other users on the Net. Much like AOL's instant-messaging system, ICQ lets you chat and exchange URLs or images with other registered users at any time. This model has a ton of advanced new features, including multiuser chats, real-time gaming and support for Internet telephony. What's more, it's free for anyone to download and remains simple to use despite its growing popularity and feature set. You can choose to work in Advanced or Simple mode, a nice option for new users.
www.icq.com

No more time-outs

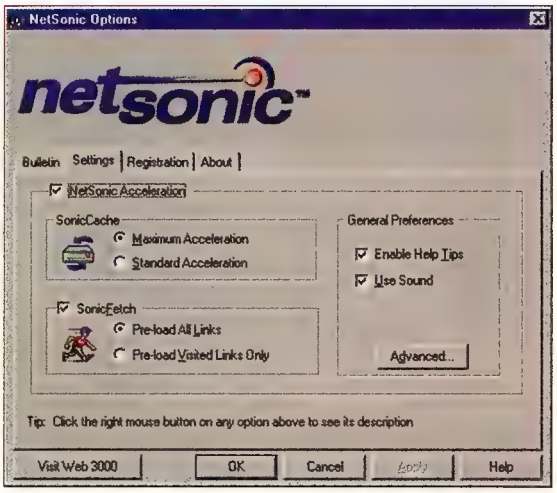
Keep It Alive

Few things in life are as annoying as being kicked off your Internet connection due to your ISP's time-out setting. If your ISP has such a setting, then the tiny (400KB) freeware app Keep It Alive is your new best friend. It will "ping" your connection every few minutes, fooling your ISP into thinking you're hard at work online. The new 2.0 version is fully compatible with all online services — good news for frustrated AOL users.
www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Garage/7334/Kpalive.html

Web acceleration that works

NetSonic

Web 3000's NetSonic is everything that Web acceleration ought to be. When your modem is idle (while you are reading an already-loaded page, for example), NetSonic prefetches the Web pages that you're likely to visit. (It keeps track of the sites that you visit most frequently.) Then it grabs only the new elements from a page. The result: faster surfing. You can set limits on the cache to keep your hard drive from being eaten alive. A retail version is available, but the freeware version of NetSonic covers all the basics.
www.web3000.com



Tired of waiting for Web pages to load? Web 3000's NetSonic speeds your surfing by fetching pages while your modem is idle

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Multiple search tools for the Net

WebFerret

WebFerret is the leader of the pack in a family of products that include FileFerret, PhoneFerret, EmailFerret and NewsFerret. Ferretsoft, maker of this very cool line of Web search utilities, offers freeware versions of each of its retail offerings. WebFerret works like a slimmed-down multiple-search engine, running a single query through several search services, discarding duplicate links and generating surprisingly fast returns. The Ferrets' chief advantages are their agility, their compact size (WebFerret takes up just 848KB) and their extreme ease of use. This freeware pays for itself with small banner ads, which you can disable in the retail Pro version. Highly recommended.
www.ferretsoft.com/netferret/download.htm

Copernic 99

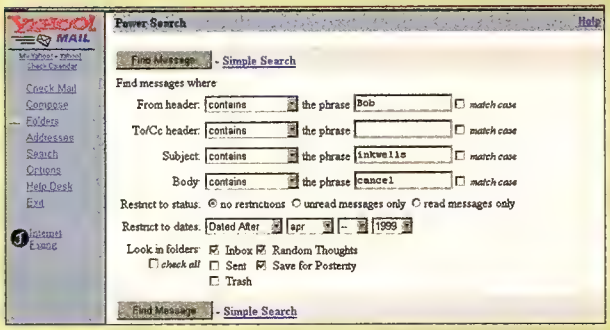
Like WebFerret, Copernic acts as a multiple-search tool that can target more than 30 separate online information sources — such as search engines, newsgroups and e-mail directories — under one interface. You can save and export search results in various file formats (HTML, XML, text and DBF) for easy e-mailing with friends or colleagues. The freeware version limits searches to Web sites, newsgroups and e-mail directories. For access to the 20-odd additional "channels" (Business,

Message in a portal — Web-based e-mail

We know, you already have an e-mail account. Or two, or three. Sign up for one of these free services anyway. They work from any Web browser and require no configuration, so you can instantly call on them when your primary e-mail account is unavailable. They're also a boon if you're travelling without a notebook: mooch a few minutes on any Internet-connected PC and you're in business. And they're invaluable for correspondence you'd just as soon keep out of your corporate account — job-hunting enquiries, the flood of messages from your StarWars mailing list and so forth.

These days, it seems like every Web site from aardvark.org to zootsuit.net touts free e-mail. Most are powered by a handful of behind-the-scenes services. If your favourite site offers an e-mail service, try it before shopping elsewhere; most are decent and it's convenient to park your in-box at a spot you already frequent.

But if you want the best overall service, surf over to Yahoo Mail (mail.yahoo.com) or Hotmail (www.hotmail.com). Fast but not flashy, Yahoo Mail is just what you'd expect from the ever-practical folks at Yahoo. You get 3MB of space to store e-mail, plus all the essentials: support for file attachments, the ability to retrieve messages from any POP3 mail server and in-box-taming tools such as filters and searchable folders. Yahoo Mail also delivers bonuses few competitors match — for example, if you run the free Yahoo Pager instant-messaging applet, you can check for new messages without firing up your browser. Outlook and PalmPilot users can synchronise those products with Yahoo Mail's address book. And the service's smooth interface and low ad count let it run as briskly as any free e-mail service we've tried.



So many messages, so little time to keep track of them: Yahoo Mail's sophisticated search tools help you find any messages fast

Microsoft's Hotmail is equally pleasing for some of the same reasons. The service has had some outages recently, but that's a hazard you risk with any free service — one we encountered with several of those here. Though it lacks instant messaging and you can't sync it with your address book, it's got a well-rounded feature set and a quick user interface. Hotmail can also scan file attachments for viruses before you download them — no antivirus software required on your end. You can also access Hotmail from Internet Explorer 5.0's Outlook Express e-mail client, letting you work offline, save messages to your hard disk and use Outlook Express to manage your mail. However, some users may find the 2MB of storage space a bit meagre (most competitors provide 3MB or more); messages will bounce back to senders once the 2MB is consumed.

Among the other contenders, Net@ddress (www.netaddress.com) stands out for its range of features. It provides HTML templates to dress up your messages, exchanges address-book info with virtually any other app and lets you create multiple signature files (say, one for business and one for personal notes). But this powerful service felt a tad slower than the snappy Yahoo Mail and Hotmail — probably due to its more elaborate user interface and heavier ad content. When you're itching to check your in-box, watching an animated casino ad slowly load is no fun.

Hotmail and Yahoo: First-class e-mail

SERVICE	What's hot	What's not	Bottom line
Excite Mail (mail.excite.com)	Not much.	Can't filter or search mail; ugly colour scheme and lots of ads.	For Excite addicts only.
Go Network Mail (mail.go.com)	Fine tools for filtering and searching mail.	Won't check your POP3 mailbox; underpowered address book.	Not enough there.
Hotmail (www.hotmail.com)	Fast and customisable; scans attachments for viruses.	Skimpy 2MB of storage space; can't sync with address book.	Fast and feature-rich.
MailCity (www.mailcity.com)	4MB of space; antispam tools; auto forwards mail ($US13/year).	No filter feature; can't search folders.	Middle of the pack.
Net@ddress (www.netaddress.com)	5MB of space; HTML templates; imports, exports address books.	Heavy advertising content; slower than most in our tests.	Love the features, hate the advertisements.
Start (www.start.com.au)	Filter feature and Australian postcode search.	Hard to navigate from information pages and e-mail service.	Good local site.
Yahoo Mail (mail.yahoo.com)	Quick, easy; works with Yahoo Pager, Outlook, PalmPilots.	Can't handle multiple signature files.	At least as cool as Hotmail.

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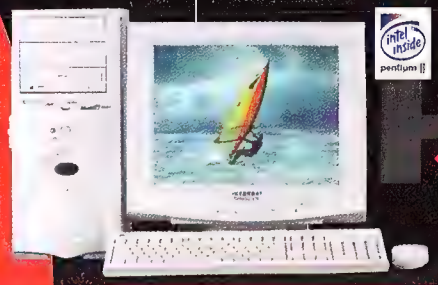

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www.copernic.com/product99.html

The surf report

Alexa

Alexa is a small toolbar that attaches to the bottom of your Internet Explorer browser window and tells you the size of the site you're currently browsing, how often it updates and how fast its servers are. The new 3.0 version can shuttle you directly to online references like Encyclopaedia Britannica Online and Merriam-Webster's Dictionary and Thesaurus. A related-links option points you to similar sites, giving you a list of, say, online stock-trading sites. Advertisers can pay to be listed in the related links for any given site, so caveat webtor. Older versions supporting Navigator are also available, but version 3.0 works only with IE for now.
www.alexa.com/download/index.html

Multimedia maverick

RealPlayer G2

RealAudio, RealVideo, RealText, RealFlash. Real cool. RealNetworks has been in the business of online multimedia for years and the company continues to release new tools designed for both the multimedia developer and the consumer. RealPlayer G2, the latest incarnation of the company's freeware user client, can handle just about any kind of multimedia the Internet can chuck in your direction. You can adjust bass and treble for audio files and view video clips directly, whether they're locally cached on your hard drive or as streaming video (assembled on the fly from the Internet). RealNetworks boasts a 100 per cent improvement in both audio and video over the previous RealPlayer 5.0.
www.real.com/products/player

MP3 for the masses

Maplay 1.2+

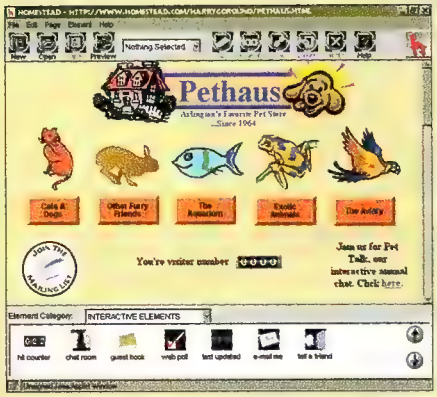
Plenty of MP3 players exist; pure versatility is what makes this one so popular. MP3 is the controversial media format

Web space 1999 — free homes for your site

The great Internet land boom is still, well, booming. Any number of free Web hosting services will now give you anywhere from 11MB to 25MB for a Web site that you can use to broadcast a hobby, show off family photos, or promote your organisation or small business. But even 11MB is a sprawling parcel of Web real estate. What really differentiates these services is the quality of their site-building tools and the degree to which they plaster your site with ads.

That's why Homestead (www.homestead.com) is our hands-down favourite. Aside from a discreet promo for itself, this service doesn't clutter your 11MB of Web space with ads and its Java-based tools' smart blend of simplicity and power is unmatched. Want to place animated clip art, a counter, a guest book, a search engine, or even a chat room on your site? Simply drag it off the toolbar and plop it anywhere on your page. (Some of these elements are provided by Web sites such as HotBot, DejaNews and Rolling Stone Online; Homestead's financial agreements with them are what keep your Webspace free.) Other Homestead virtues include custom URLs that are easy to remember (such as www.homestead.com/yournamehere) and basic security via password protection.

Our only real gripes are two ugly facts of life with Java applications: the site-building tools take a while to load and crash occasionally.



Browser for Browser: whether you run a pet shop or just want to air your pet peeves, Homestead gives you a place — and space — on the Web

Homestead can import HTML files created elsewhere, but if you're a confirmed HTML tweaker, you may prefer GeoCities (www.geocities.com) or Tripod (www.tripod.com). Both of these free-Webspace pioneers offer 11MB of space, an online HTML editor for editing code manually and extensive site-construction tools for beginners, experts and everyone in between. However, they also festoon your pages with ads; Tripod's mandatory pop-up promos are particularly aggravating.

Remember, though: these Web hosting sites change more often than the weather. Today's ad-free Web hosts may be littered with banners tomorrow. If you are adamantly antiadvertising, then a free Web host may not be for you.

There's no place like Homestead

SERVICE	What's hot	What's not	Bottom line
FortuneCity (www.fortunecity.com)	20MB of Web space; relatively unobtrusive ads.	Spartan site-building tools; cryptic URLs.	Lost in space.
GeoCities (www.geocities.com)	Excellent tools for everyone from newbies to HTML pros.	Puts ads and the GeoCities logo on your site; cumbersome URLs.	Lots to offer — and lots of ads.
Theglobe.com (www.theglobe.com)	12MB of Web space is a meg more than most provide.	Crude site-building features; truly irritating pop-up ads.	Better bet: Homestead, GeoCities, or Tripod.
Homestead (www.homestead.com)	Simple, powerful, and no ads; easy URLs; password protected.	Fewer tools than some others for tweaking HTML by hand.	Easy-to-use, potent, fun — our favourite by far.
Tripod (www.tripod.com)	Tons of tools and tutorials for novices and experts alike.	Irksome ads; requires you to update your site monthly.	Not bad, but not Homestead either.
Xoom.com (www.xoom.com)	Plenty of Webspace; nice chat room feature.	Places a strip of ads on all your pages; so-so site-building tools.	Once ad-free site is now one of most commercial.

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that lets users quickly and easily create, post and download audio files, regardless of whether the audio is licensed. A full 32-bit application, Maplay has built-in support for MP3 but can also tackle almost any multimedia format your system supports — WAV, MIDI, Sun AU, Apple QuickTime, Video for Windows, Video CD, MPEG video, CD audio and so on. A built-in playlist editor lets you create, edit and save playlists of downloaded files and you can associate images or text with each track, making your own virtual packaging.
www-inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~ctsay/mp2win32.html

Cartoon chatting
Microsoft Chat and V-Chat

Unlike strictly text-based chat systems, Microsoft Chat and V-Chat create continually running panel cartoons in which each user is a character of his or her choosing, endlessly bantering away in *The Strip That Never Ends*. You can choose from a variety of icons, body types and facial expressions. Feeling hip? Be a beatnik. Feeling mean? Be a monster. Or just show up with a bag over your head. (Really.) The newer V-Chat system is even more ambitious, adding 3D images and ambient sound to the environment, using DirectX technologies such as DirectDraw and Direct3D. Chat takes up 1.7MB, while V-Chat occupies 3.5MB.
www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/chat

TECH SUPPORT

One-stop shopping for Windows info
ActiveWindows

This well-designed site houses a galaxy of useful technical information about — but not limited to — Windows. You'll find articles, tips, FAQs, bug alerts, downloads and reviews collected from around the Web. ActiveWindows contributors generate much of the content, but many items are reproduced from — or simply link to — other computing sites. The

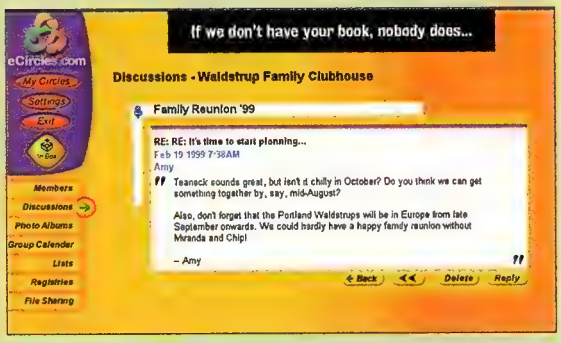
Our gang — online community sites

Whereas Web site hosts like Homestead and its rivals give you the equivalent of an empty lot and a box of site-building tools, the services in this category provide a prefabricated, private online home for your club, friends and family, or other group. The possibilities are limitless — you could put your local RSL club on the Internet, start an online book club, or establish an ongoing virtual reunion for your far-flung relations. Simply sign up, fill out a form and you're instantly in business, with amenities such as message boards, a chat room, a shared calendar and a digital photo album. These online community sites are designed primarily for home users; you can also use them for business communications, but they don't guarantee constant availability or airtight security. (Your meeting place is protected by simple passwords, not by encryption or other heavy-duty safety measures.)

None of the services here offers every feature you might want and all are still evolving. (For example, ECircles and EGroups didn't offer chat rooms when we tried them. Both plan to have those features in place by the time you read this.) Since all of these community sites are free, you should try several before settling in permanently. We'd start the hunt at ECircles (www.ecircles.com), our overall favourite. You can create a "circle" in a jiffy and issue e-mail invitations to others to join you there; circles provide threaded message boards, a group calendar, areas where you can share photos and files. Each member of your circle can choose to receive daily or weekly e-mail digests of new messages, discussions and other activities.

Also worthy of note is EGroups (www.egroups.com), which gives a new twist to one of the oldest forms of Internet collaboration — the humble mailing list. No relation to the similarly named ECircles, this unique service makes it easy to create and administer a public or private mailing list. Users can participate by e-mail or by visiting the EGroups Web site, where the same discussions appear as threaded message forums. The site also provides your group with online polls, a calendar and folders into which users can upload files for sharing.

EGroups is so useful that we won't carp about the brief ads it appends to mailing-list messages — which are occasionally longer than the missives they accompany.



Community property: would you rather type than talk? Sites like ECircles let you commune via modem with other like-minded souls

ECircles puts your Group in the loop

SERVICE	What's hot	What's not	Bottom line
Delphi (www.delphi.com)	Strong message board and chat; customise it at will.	Jumbled look and feel (undergoing makeover at press time).	Fine for advanced users, overkill for casual types.
ECircles (www.ecircles.com)	Simple and fun; great message board, photo album, and more.	No chat rooms at press time, but stay tuned.	In the winner's circle.
EGroups (www.egroups.com)	Easy mail list management; you can poll others, share files.	Tacks ads onto messages; chat unavailable at press time.	Mailing lists for the rest of us — nicely done.
Excite Communities (www.excite.com)	Quick setup; offers chat room, photo album, and file sharing.	Message board doesn't permit threaded discussions.	Like Yahoo Clubs but less refined.
Yahoo Clubs (clubs.yahoo.com)	Low-key ads; good chat room, plus calendar and photo album.	Like Excite, it doesn't allow threaded discussions.	Good for chat, but message board needs work.

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interface is a marvel of organisation. For quick reference help and troubleshooting, check out the FAQs section, with categories for DirectX, Internet Explorer, Windows 98 and more.
www.activewin.com

The ultimate in tech support FAQs
The PC Guide

This sprawling Web site evolved from one man's attempt to create a listing of FAQs for the alt.comp.hardware.pc-home-built newsgroup. Now a monster site comprising more than 1700 pages, The PC Guide is dedicated to providing technical assistance for everyone "from the total newbie to the accomplished expert". You'll find detailed reference guides to every component of the PC and walk-through areas for basic system maintenance and upkeep.
www.pcguide.com

Free advice — top tips for Web freeloaders

1 SURF OFF-PEAK. Web-based services, file downloads and other online activities will be quicker if you avoid the Internet's rush hours. Depending on your ISP and the clients it has on board, rush hours can vary. Also the country of origin you are downloading from (eg: Europe or the US) and the peak hours experienced there need to be considered. Generally for surfing the peak time for Internet usage is between 10am to 12pm. Check the Internet Traffic Report (www.internettrafficreport.com) for up-to-the-moment alerts on Net congestion.

2 QUESTION CAREFULLY. Hotmail and other Web services ask you to provide a question and an answer when you sign up; if you forget your password, they'll ask you the question to verify your identity. But any joker with a Web browser can view your question — so don't use one with an easy answer that even casual acquaintances might know (Mum's maiden name or your favourite pet, for example), even if the site suggests you do that.

3 SAY THANKS, BUT NO THANKS. When you register for free Web stuff, keep an eagle eye out for a check box that invites the site (and its partners) to pelt you with e-mailed "special offers" — in other words, ads. Unless you are a junk-mail junkie, feel free to deselect it.

4 OPEN A SPAM BOX. It's impossible to sidestep unwanted mail completely if you sign up for free Web services. Keep it from cluttering your in-box by using a free e-mail service to sign up (see "Message in a portal"), not your primary e-mail account.

5 DON'T BET YOUR BUSINESS. Server crashes, security holes and unforeseen downtime run rampant on the Web. And it's a safe bet that a few of the sites here will go out of business without warning. In other words: don't depend on them for mission-critical work.

A mechanic you can trust
PC Mechanic

Here's where to find everything you wanted to know about your computer but were too afraid to ask. Well-organised and comprehensive, PC Mechanic concentrates on hardware and features a dozen or so basic guides for the various areas of your PC: processor, hard drive, memory, monitor and so forth. Each area contains step-by-step how-to articles for upgrade and repair, as well as external links to other resources online. The site offers a $US10 downloadable edition that will generate a printer-friendly file of all internal content.
www.pcmech.com

PERSONAL BUSINESS

Name that URL
You Don't Know Jack — the Netshow

You Don't Know Jack — the Netshow is a free online version of the pop-culture quiz show CD-ROM that was all the rage a few years back. This is as close to the feel of an actual interactive television broadcast as you can get, even with a dial-up connection, thanks to the creative production and some ingenious programming. To play, you need to download a game installer (this takes about 10 minutes over a 56-Kbps connection), which puts all the graphics-intensive game-play elements on your hard drive. Once you're up and running, you'll experience a full-screen, dynamic, virtual game show with continually updated topics and questions — and a whole lot of attitude. Very clever, very funny, lots of fun.
www.won.net/gamerooms/bezerk

The Web's the game
Shockrave

Macromedia's playground/showcase for the latest and greatest in interactive Web goofiness. Here you'll find dozens of cool games that work directly through your browser via Java and Macromedia's own Shockwave technology. (You have to download the Shockwave plug-in, but the process is fast and painless.) Check out the Arcade section for scaled-down replicas of your favourite eighties' coin-operated video games.
www.shockrave.com

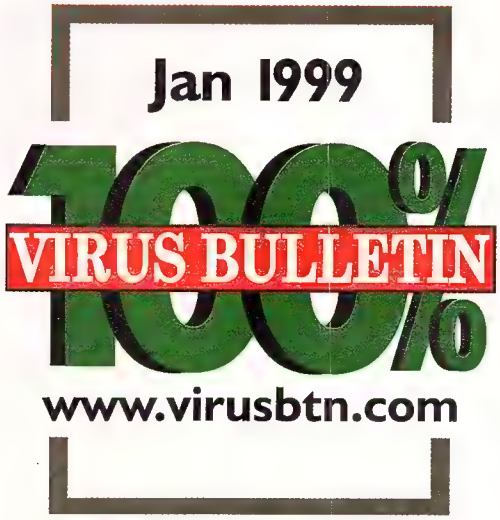
Everyone's a critic
The Internet Movie Database

Ever find yourself mildly obsessed with a film after you get home from the cinema? Maybe it's a plot point you can't resolve, or an actor you can't quite place. The celebrated Internet Movie Database features more than 170,000 movie titles, each expertly cross-referenced and hyperlinked. For each entry you'll find reviews; trivia; full cast and credit listings; VHS, DVD and laserdisc information; links to official and unofficial fan sites; and much, much more.
www.imdb.com

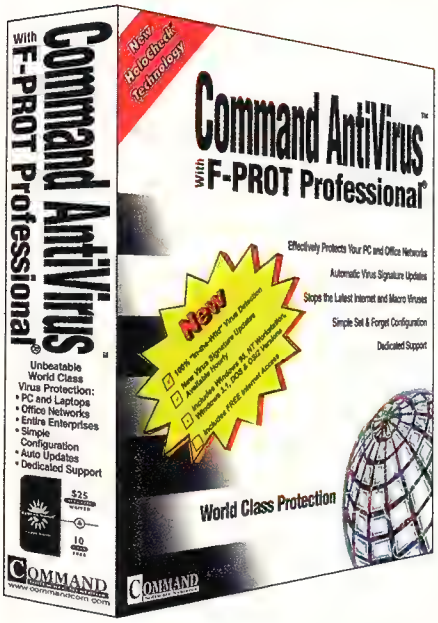
pcw

What other Anti-Virus have these

LEVEL 2



across all platforms?



Command AntiVirus is a major new version of its popular anti-virus software. Serving multiple platforms in one package, the new **Command AntiVirus** features a redesignated, state-of-the art scan engine designed to track down and disinfect today's new generation of viruses, as well as **CSS Central**, a revolutionary centralised deployment and administration system.

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- Command AntiVirus™ for **Windows NT**
- Command AntiVirus™ for **OS/2**
- Command AntiVirus™ for **NetWare**

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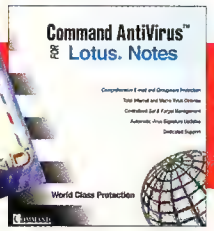

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Feature

FIND IT ON THE WEB

It is often said that finding the information you need on the Web is like looking for a needle in a haystack. Not true. The search for a stray needle is simple by comparison!

Fortunately, there are plenty of tools available that will take the pain out of Web searching. The trick is to know which tool to use and when

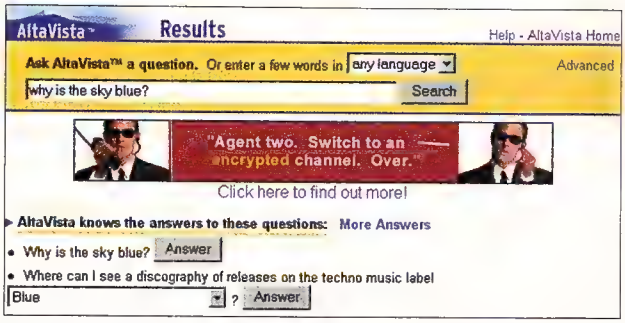
By Matt Lake, Dylan Tweney and Sue Bushell

GENERAL SEARCHES

Your quest should begin with general search tools such as those offered by AltaVista, Dogpile, Excite, GoTo.com, HotBot, InfoSeek, Lycos, and Yahoo. These sites — Yahoo in particular — are the best places to conduct searches on general topics.

▲ **AltaVista (www.altavista.com)** A powerful general-purpose search engine, Compaq's AltaVista has been around longer than most other search sites on the Web. Though it lacks some of the query-construction niceties of other sites, such as drop-down boxes for building Boolean expressions, it offers a few unique tools. One useful feature lets you type simple questions into the query box; then, along with providing the search results, AltaVista will guess at several related questions you might want answered. For instance, a search on "dog" netted us "How are hot dogs made?" and an Answer button that linked to pertinent sites.

AltaVista's basic search form lets you specify in which of 25 languages (how about Icelandic or Lithuanian?) you'd like your search results to appear, a nice feature that other sites generally include only on their advanced search forms. And check out the Tools and Gadgets page (www.altavista.com/av/content/tools) for such handy accessories as the Stress-O-Meter, the Calorie Calculator, and Find Polluters Near You. Of special interest is the Babelfish tool (babelfish.altavista.com),



When you type a query in AltaVista, you may receive an answer from a highly relevant site in addition to query results

which lets you translate phrases or entire Web pages to and from English, French, Italian, Spanish, and other languages.

TIP To search a specific site, type **host:domain keyword**. For example, if you're looking for CNN's coverage of Bosnia, type **host:cnn.com bosnia**. For info from a specific country, type **domain:country keyword**. For example, **domain:uk football** will take you to British sites dedicated to soccer.

▲ **Dogpile (www.dogpile.com)** When one search engine's index doesn't yield all the data you're looking for, metasearch sites such as Dogpile come into their own. Metasearching is the online equivalent of sending an army of detectives out to bring back results from the four corners of the Web. Many sites perform metasearches, but Dogpile puts a different spin on this trick. For one thing, it metasearches different types of sites: you can choose from among searches of the Web, newswire services, Usenet, FTP sites, and other sources such as maps, weather reports, and stock quotes.

The results aren't collated. Instead, they're served up in groups arranged by the search engine that found the information. This isn't the handiest way to sort through information (the software Copernic 99 does it better — see "Extending the toolbox", p92), but it's very fast. And the site provides searches of news and news releases under its BizNews section, sensibly sorted by date.

TIP Use lots of Boolean terms in a Dogpile search. Putting phrases in quotes or using a minus sign to exclude a word can make all the difference when results from different search engines aren't sorted for duplicates.

▲ **Excite (www.excite.com)** A single Excite search provides all kinds of results — not just Web page links. Search for, say, the Rolling Stones, and you'll get news stories, schedules of events, encyclopedia articles, and sound clips. When you search for a publicly traded company, the first results you'll see are links to its financials and to the company's Web site. For a quick overview of a subject, it's hard to beat these categorised results. Excite also has handy tools for making adjustments when the first search yields few relevant results. By simply clicking a button, you can change the sort order so that the output is listed by Web site. If only one result seems relevant, click the words *More Like This* beneath it, and Excite will re-search the Web based on the words and concepts in that result.

TIP If your search yields lots of irrelevant items, pick out a few key words from the "Select words to add to your search" list below the search form on the results box.

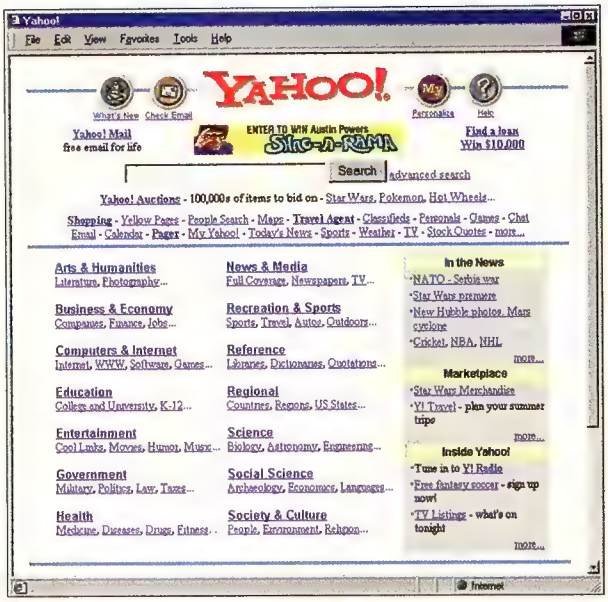
▲ **HotBot (www.hotbot.com)** This site is great at locating Web pages posted during a specific period of time. The basic search form's excellent controls, in drop-down list boxes, cover a lot of ground. You can search for phrases, page titles, people, and links to a particular URL, and restrict results to any of nine languages. Keen on finding the very latest? Prefer a more generous time frame? Narrow the results to pages updated within the week, or broaden the period to several months. And you're not restricted to seeking Web pages — check boxes let you search for JavaScripts, images, audio files, and video files.

HotBot's advanced search form spells out a few of the Boolean options you can type into the regular form, and adds some new options such as restricting a search to a particular domain (like microsoft.com) or top-level domain (such as .com, .gov, or .edu). This is useful for scouring sites that lack a good search tool. And if HotBot fails to get results (as it did in a few of our quests), there's a button that reissues the search on Lycos.

TIP Don't create too long a Boolean string to narrow a search. After two or three NOT statements, HotBot throws up its hands and gives zero results, even when hundreds of sites actually satisfy the specified query.

Lycos lets you look for specific content, such as images, MP3 files, books, or newsgroups

▲ **InfoSeek (infoseek.go.com)** InfoSeek is the search engine component of the Go Network, an array of Web content sites affiliated with Disney and (US) ABC. Like other search sites, InfoSeek uses a simple one-box search form — just type your query and hit **<Enter>** or click the Search button. Use the drop-down box to specify whether you want to search for Web pages, news stories, newsgroup messages, or companies. Like HotBot and Lycos, InfoSeek has an advanced search form for constructing Boolean queries or searches by category. There's also a handy filter you can use to screen out content



Yahoo's carefully maintained subject catalogue is ideal for generalised searches

unsuitable for children; it's called GoGuardian and can be turned on with a single click.

TIP Use the pipe character (|) to search within subject categories on InfoSeek. For example, type **dance|tango** to search for the word "tango" within the category "dance".

▲ **Lycos (www.lycos.com)** An attractive, convenient search site, Lycos combines news, product offers, and other consumer niceties with its Web page search results. Its context-sensitive search bar lets you refine searches with ease. Once you've entered an initial search, Lycos lets you run a second query on the first set of results, or within a Lycos category such as Weather or sites that have won the "Top 5%" award.

Lycos's Pro Search page lets you look for specific content, such as images, MP3 files, books, or newsgroups.

TIP Search Guard is an optional service that screens out content such as pornography and possibly objectionable language; using it can limit your access to chat rooms and bulletin boards through Lycos. Once you register for Search Guard, you can specify the content you want to screen out.

▲ **Microsoft Network (www.msn.com)** Like its browser-war opponent Netscape, Microsoft maintains a search site in which it bestows regal favour on other Web search sites that pledge their fealty to the kingdom — in this case, AltaVista, Infoseek, Lycos, and Snap. The Microsoft Network search site (search.msn.com) also provides a proprietary MSN search, capable of handling mixed phrase and operator searches (like "Mark Woodforde" -Woodbridge if you're more interested in the tennis player's singles record than his doubles successes). And www.msn.com provides an all-in-one page that includes more search options, from Web-wide searches at GoTo.com and Northern Light to specialty searches of Corbis's art collection or of Dictionary.com. Internet Explorer 5.0 users who follow the *More Searches*

Search tools

SITE	Best use
AltaVista www.altavista.com	Multilingual searches, queries entered as simple questions
InfoSeek infoseek.go.com	Filtering adult content
Ask Jeeves www.ask.com	Natural-language queries
Lycos www.lycos.com	Finding graphics, music files and other specialised content
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Microsoft Network www.msn.com	Searching with multiple engines
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Microsoft's KnowledgeBase support.microsoft.com	Troubleshooting Microsoft products
Deja.com www.deja.com	Locating useful information in Usenet communities
NetCenter www.netcenter.com	Accessing various search engines
Dogpile www.dogpile.com	Online metasearching of the Web, Usenet and news sources
NetLibrary www.netlibrary.com	Finding and downloading e-books
Electric Library $ www.elibrary.com	Research across a wide range of publications
No Wonder www.nowonder.com	Technical support for various software
Encarta encarta.msn.com	Basic encyclopedia research
OneLook www.onelook.com	Dictionary definitions
Excite www.excite.com	Broad searches of the Web
SupportHelp.com www.supporthelp.com	Finding tech support sites and e-mail addresses for hi-tech companies
Google www.google.com	Getting up-to-date results quickly
White Pages www.whitepages.com.au	Finding telephone numbers
GoTo.com.au www.goto.com.au	Searching for commercial sites
Yahoo www.yahoo.com.au	Narrowing search results category before you begin searching
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link find more than a long list of search sites. For them, the page provides the chance to customise what appears when they click their browser's Search button — including the option of adding their own favourite search sites.

▲ **NetCenter (www.netcenter.com)** Netscape's NetCenter collects half a dozen different Web search sites under a single URL — seven sites if you count Netscape's branded version of Excite as a separate entity. Certainly, it can be beneficial to have access to Excite, InfoSeek, Lycos, Snap, and LookSmart — plus a news search called NewsTracker (also from Excite).
TIP If you know which sites you like to search, go directly to them and avoid getting mired in NetCenter's interface.

▲ **Yahoo (www.yahoo.com)** Aside from being a top-notch search engine and the most popular portal on the Web, Yahoo is a carefully constructed, laboriously maintained subject catalogue of the Web. This makes it an ideal instrument for your first search. Rather than zeroing in on specific pages within a site, Yahoo lets you locate entire sites and their index pages. This tactic is especially useful when you're interested in finding a certain page but don't know exactly what you're looking for within it. Because Yahoo enables you to search by categories or by sites, its results tend to be more manageable than those from other search sites.
TIP Be sure to take advantage of Yahoo's well-organised categories to narrow down your search. First browse to the general category you're interested in, and then enter a query and specify that Yahoo should limit its search to just this category.

SEARCH TIPS

Choosing the right search tool is only half the battle. The way you formulate your queries is just as important. Here are a few tricks to help you hone queries and speed more quickly to the results you seek.

Enter phrases or questions You'll get better results if you enter a few related words rather than a single word. Thus, "King Arthur Holy Grail" will be more effective than simply "Arthur". You may also enter a question: "Who found the Holy Grail?" Most search engines ignore words like "the" anyway.
Choose your words wisely A generic search phrase like "round table" will yield too many results if you're trying to find out about Arthur's famous furniture. A better phrase: "king arthur knights round table".
Try and try again If you don't glean what you're looking for on the first try, don't give up. Try varying the original query by substituting synonyms or related words. Too many results? Add descriptive terms to make your query more precise.
Put quotes on key phrases Put quotation marks around specific, verbatim phrases that you want to find exactly as written: "To be or not to be".
Get help from operators Common tools for linking search words together include the Boolean operators AND, OR, and NOT, and the + and - signs. These operators, recognised by most search engines, help you craft more clearly delineated queries. AND links words that must be contained in each returned result, eg "Arthur AND Merlin". If only one of the two words must be found in the results, use OR: "Merlin OR Merlyn". NOT or the minus sign, inserted before a word, can be used to exclude words that must not appear in the results: "Holy Grail -Monty -Python". The plus sign used before a word indicates that the word must appear in the search results: "+King +Arthur".

STAYING LOCAL

The Web is so huge that when you're looking for specifically Australian information you'll often get far better results using an Australian search engine. Using several Aussie search engines, one after another, will significantly improve your chances of getting good results.

Australian State Search Engines

SunSeek Queensland — www.aaa.com.au/search/sun
New South Wales — www.aaa.com.au/search/new
VicFind Victoria — www.aaa.com.au/search/vicfind
SA-Seek South Australia — www.aaa.com.au/search/saseek
Wazoo West Australia — www.aaa.com.au/search/wazoo

An excellent place to start is AusIndex **www.ausindex.com.au** — the directory of Australian search engines, directories, databases, indexes, government and education resources and home pages.

▲ **AltaVista (www.altavista.yellowpages.com.au)** The Australian AltaVista site is fast — they say you can search through AltaVista's 200GB Web index in less than a second — and offers most of the strength of the original AltaVista. You can also search in many languages including Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Russian, as well as European languages such as French, German, Italian, and English. There's also an instant translation service that translates words, phrases, and entire Web sites into a variety of different languages.

The Australia Announce Archive features classic Australian "Hot Spots" and numerous pointers to Australian Web sites

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PI 411

The local Excite engine is an excellent tool for conducting searches for concepts rather than for specific words or phrases

Searches allow wildcards within a word and there is a facility for natural language searching. You can also limit searches by language and date.

▲ **Anzak (www.aaa.com.au/search/anzak)** A Trans-Tasman search engine listing Australia and New Zealand Web sites.

▲ **Anzwers (www.anzwers.com.au/cgibin/print_search.pl)** Anzwers provides simple forms-based searches and power searching. Use the "power user" controls to search for specific media types such as Java, audio etc and by file extensions. Anzwers uses the same Inktomi engine used in HotBot. There's also a handy job finder feature that lets you search for IT jobs across industries, agencies, and skillsets.

You can restrict searches to the region or search the globe.

▲ **Aussie.com.au (www.aussie.com.au/index/ai.htm)** Features a large collection of Australian Web page announcements and a search engine covering a range of categories: commercial, personal, government and education.

▲ **Aussie Index (www.aussie.com.au/index.html)** An index reference of Australian WWW sites plus an A-Z subject listing.

▲ **Australia Announce Archive (www.aaa.com.au)** Features an Australian Cool Site of the day, Classic Australian Hot Spots and numerous pointers to Australian Web sites. You can view pages in many languages.

▲ **Australian What'sNew2 (www.aaa.com.au/world/australia/whatsnew2au)** A place where new Australian sites announce their URLs.

▲ **Excite (au.excite.com)** An excellent site for conducting searches for concepts rather than for specific words or phrases. A "more like this" option helps to focus searches.

This search engine offers similar terms to help you narrow your search and automated synonym searching. You also get a "more like this" option in the results window.

▲ **Matilda (www.aaa.com.au/matilda)** A reasonably sophisticated and powerful Aussie search engine, Matilda is the brainchild of the Sydney-based Australia Announce Archive (see above). The result is a high-quality search engine that is reportedly the largest outside the US. Its developers also claim it as the world's fastest-growing search engine.

You actually get three search engines: Matilda DirectFind, Boomerang (an Australian-owned Directory of Australian Web sites) and Matilda Dogpile (which scans Lycos, Yahoo, Altavista, Excite, Hotbot, and Infoseek in a single search).

▲ **SOFCOM (www.sofcom.com/Directories)** A first-class search engine that lets you define your own descriptions and provides a range of useful subject categories. The company claims its Web directory features more than 40,000 different Australian sites, with only one entry per Web site to avoid overwhelming users with irrelevant entries.

Search engines demystified

It's not as mystical as casting runes, but what goes on betwixt clicking the Search button and scrolling a results page might as well be magic. All search tools use a three-stage process to compile your results page: generating an index, searching the index, and sorting the results. But each site handles these tasks differently and can thus yield different results.

Yahoo's superior indexing. Most search engines use "spider" software that crawls over the Web to create an index. The software targets various sites and follows all the links on every page there, indexing each page. Indexes vary in quality, depending on how frequently they're updated and how often pages deleted from sites are deleted from them. The results also vary in relevance, because spider indexing may include invisible descriptions (known as metatags) added by webmasters, titles and headlines, and key words and phrases from the page.

All these factors can produce misleading results, especially since many webmasters abuse them to drive traffic to their sites. The result? Irrelevant hits. That's why Yahoo's much-imitated model of human-generated site descriptions, which come complete with search-friendly keywords, often yields more-relevant results.

Sorting results. When you enter search words in a form, the search engine begins to search its database. The query results then get sorted, another source of big differences between search engines.

Most sites that have invested in human site-indexing put those results ahead of mechanically indexed ones. GoTo introduces paid-for results into the mix, if an advertiser has bought placement for specific search words such as travel or music.

The bottom line: for the most thorough results, use more than one engine or go straight to a metasearcher like Dogpile. And for narrower, optimised results, you can't go wrong with Yahoo.

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Useful grouping of subject categories to simplify exploration.

▲ **WebWombat (www2.Webwombat.com.au)** Features a highly organised collection of categories and a powerful search engine that commonly achieves good results. WebWombat scores 14 per cent of Australian portal traffic, according to a November 98 online readership survey. As well as pointers to a range of resources from Bed and Breakfast listings to ASX stock prices there are also pointers to travel resources and online shopping facilities. You can elect to search either Australian and New Zealand domains only or the entire Web.

One drawback is a tendency to furnish all too many irrelevant results.

▲ **Yahoo Australia (www.yahoo.com.au)** Yahoo Australia operates just like the main Yahoo, but ranks Australian and New Zealand sites. It is also better to use for searches of local sites than the main Yahoo. pcw

Your browser as a search tool

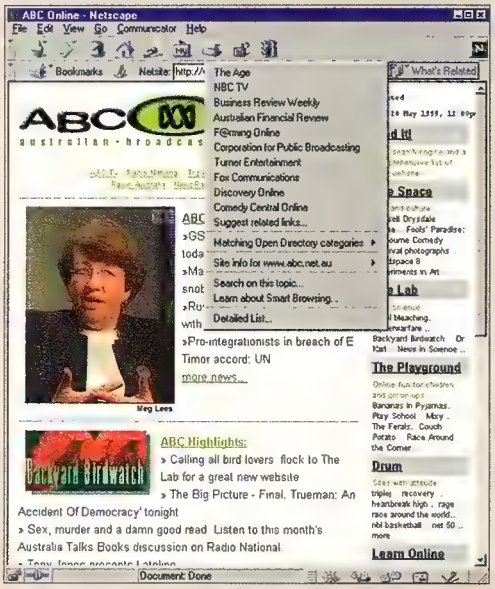
Before you experiment with search engines in distant corners of the Web, try the search tools in your favourite browser. Both Internet Explorer 5 and Navigator 4.5 have features that can reduce typing and navigation time and may save you a long trip to unfamiliar realms.

Internet Explorer 5 When you click the Search button, a left-hand pane opens, listing several search options: Find a Web Page, Find a Person, Find a Map, Find in Encyclopedia, and more. To configure these options to your liking, click *Customize*, which will take you to a Web page where you can specify your preferred search sites and the order in which the Search tool should query them. Type a keyword into the search field, and the query will be issued to all the participating search engines. When results appear in the search pane, you can click a link, and its page will appear in the main browser pane. If you don't find what you're looking for, click *Next* in the left pane, and you'll see the results from the next participating search engine (AltaVista, HotBot, and others). For even faster searches, type a question mark in the address box, immediately followed by your query: for example, **?Bill Gates**.

Navigator 4.5 While you're perusing a site, you may want to read more about the topic currently at hand. Navigator 4.5's "What's related" menu offers links to subjects similar to the one you're currently browsing. When you visit www.abc.net.au, for instance, this menu will list other media sites.

As in IE 5, you can also type a question mark into the address bar, immediately followed by your query.

- Yael Li-Ron



Navigator 4.5's "What's related" button can turn up useful sites

Extending the toolbox

Several downloadable programs offer the weary pilgrim further options for finding and organising information. You'll find free or trial versions of each of the following programs on our cover CD.

A free metasearcher supported by banner advertising (a $US30 version with more options is also available), Copernic 99 (www.copernic.com) taps 11 popular search engines and lets you save whole pages from the results for offline browsing. Among Copernic's conveniences is a tool for saving your search terms so you can continue to research a topic.

Unlike most metasearchers, Copernic also narrows searches with ease: it lets you exclude results either by using Boolean arguments or by clicking a box next to the result and hitting **<Delete>**.

Serious Net searchers in need of high-powered research assistance should check out Prompt Software's SuperSleuth (www.promptsoftware.com, $US60), which can deliver your queries to dozens of search engines simultaneously. It then compiles the results, and analyses and indexes every page returned. Needless to say, it's a time-consuming process. And SuperSleuth's daunting interface ensures that you'll need some time to maximise results. You can try WebSleuth, SuperSleuth's poorer cousin, for free, but if you need to scour the Net till it shines, you'll probably want SuperSleuth.

Webforia Organizer (www.webforia.com, $US79) can act as a Web browser and a search tool, but its greatest strength lies in letting you further index specific sites and store the results offline for later searching. Clicking Organizer's bookmark tool as you browse prompts it to save not only a site's URL and page title but also an index of keywords for subsequent offline review.

If you're an information junkie with an overflowing in-box and a pile of Web research jobs waiting, Enfish Tracker Pro (www.enfish.com, $US80) may be just the program to get you organised. Enfish aims not just to manage your Internet searches, but to organise your entire life — at least the part of it that passes through your PC. When you install Enfish, it first indexes everything on your hard drive — a process that may take several hours. Once this process is complete, Enfish sits in the background, quietly monitoring and indexing everything you do — documents you write in your word processor, e-mail you send and receive, and Web pages you browse. It groups related data together, making it easier for you to retrieve information later.

The freeware Alexa (www.alexa.com) suggests additional sites for you to visit when you're browsing. Visible on your desktop as a narrow toolbar that sits off to one side, Alexa displays a list of links related to the site you're currently visiting.

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If your in-trays are always overflowing, your e-mail inbox is awash with unopened mail, Post-It notes litter your desk, and you have three address books, none of them up to date, then perhaps it is time to invest in a personal information manager

Power to the PIMs

By Amanda Conroy

PIMs have come of age and are increasingly an integral part of coordinating contacts, appointments and day-to-day activities both in the workplace and at home. Gone are the days when you shut off your desktop PC and your contacts became inaccessible. With the rise of personal digital assistants (PDAs) and the ability of these devices to synchronise with PIMs, having the information close at hand is no longer an issue. And if you are not in the handheld club yet, then recent developments on the Web will assist you — most contact details can now be posted to URLs. But if you still feel queasy about committing yourself to an electronic form don't worry — some PIMs even let you print out the details in a form that fits inside your paper-style organiser.

If you are after contact or e-mail management, or a simple and easy-to-use time manager, then there is probably a PIM for you. The PIMs reviewed here represent a cross-section of the main players available locally, with the market dominated by Microsoft, Lotus, and to a lesser extent, Corel. All of these products offer different

features and tools, and depending on how you work, these products will either appeal to you or prove more frustrating than your current management system.

The shareware product by Redbox, as well as the Web management offerings now available, provide a great opportunity to get your feet wet and your life in order PIM-wise, without outlaying a fortune. So what do you have to lose? Certainly not your lifelong contact list, left in the back of a cab.

Microsoft Outlook 98

Microsoft's PIM was originally born out of Office 95's Schedule+, and since its emergence as a workgroup and individual desktop manager the product (with the release of Outlook 97) has continued to strengthen its core functions: e-mail, collaborative features and increasing integration with Microsoft Office applications.

Outlook 98 includes a host of features (some already witnessed in Outlook 97, but now enhanced) designed to assist in managing and prioritising information, organising your e-mail inbox and allowing messages to be viewed at a glance. Additional Internet standards are supported and integration with other Microsoft applications is tighter. A set of basic features allow you to fine-tune Outlook to your specific requirements.

ORGANISING INFORMATION

Outlook now provides an overview of your day on its Outlook Today page, which can be accessed from the Outlook Bar. The page opens to show you messages in your inbox, a list of the tasks you have set yourself for the day, as well as your calendar and scheduled appointments. The calendar can be displayed in daily or weekly view. You can also customise how your tasks are to be set out and check them off on completion. Contacts can also be searched from the Outlook Today view.

One of the most important tools when managing your personal information and contacts is the ability to search and find the information you require — fast. Microsoft has incorporated a Find page on the toolbar (it looks like a Web search tool) to search across messages, appointments, contacts and tasks. Information unearthed can be sorted and grouped, and an Advanced Find tool on the toolbar allows you to drill down further.

Managing contacts, whether you work individually or on group projects, and remembering who you need to follow up with and when, is difficult to keep abreast of. In Outlook 98 a flag for contacts, in the same vein as the message flag tool, makes managing your calls simpler. You can specify the date and time for the reminder, and select the contact you wish to flag detailing whether the contact requires a follow up call, a meeting, an e-mail or a letter.

INBOX TOOLS

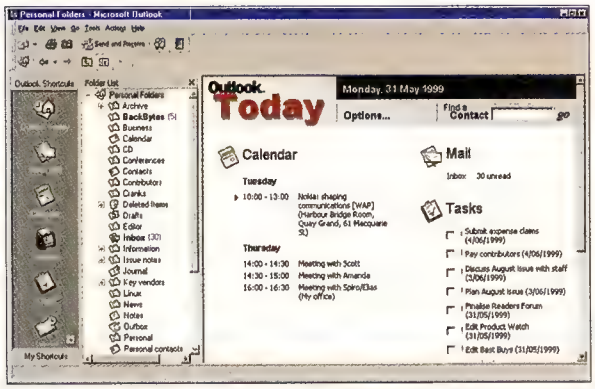
Your e-mail inbox can start to take on a life of its own, and unless you can prioritise messages, locating vital information can become time-consuming. Outlook includes new inbox organisation tools to quickly sort the essential information from the junk.

Folders can be set up to store messages from common correspondents (for example, your co-workers and clients) and with the application of a rule, all future messages received from the correspondent can be directly sent to your folder. Colours can also be applied to highlight messages, and views can be selected to group common messages together. Junk e-mail may seem like a way of life these days, but these tools can be utilised to move unsolicited material directly to the Deleted Items folder or to a folder of your choice for later viewing. Unsent e-mails are automatically saved to a Draft folder ensuring they don't vanish if you are distracted by more urgent matters.

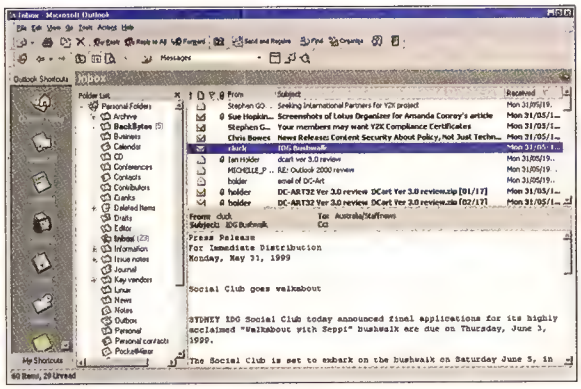
The Rules wizard, which was an add-on component in Outlook 97, is a fully-fledged feature in 98. Located on the Tools menu, it allows for an automatic instruction to be applied to your e-mails, such as movement to a folder, deletion, forwarding or flagging of incoming and outgoing e-mails.

BASIC FEATURES

Outlook, with its labyrinth of features, has always looked a little cluttered, with numerous tools and dialogue boxes tending to make the management of information difficult. Outlook 98 has endeavoured to alleviate this problem by simplifying the number of options available, and allowing these to be customised. The View menu, for example, only displays the



Outlook 98's Outlook Today page provides an overview of your schedule and task list



Outlook 98's sizeable Preview pane lets you view messages without opening them

most frequently used commands, and the new Actions menu only contains commands related to the view you are currently using. Fewer buttons appear on the toolbars, although these can be customised to display, remove or change further options if required. Multiple folders can be opened in separate windows, so in case you need to confirm a contact while your calendar is opened, both views can be seen.

If you use HTML to format your e-mail messages, your e-mail stationery can be tailored to change default fonts, add images and background colours. An HTML mail tool allows you to send messages incorporating animated graphics, images and other attachments found on a Web page — even entire Web pages can be sent.

Multiple signatures are also supported (which is handy in this era of downsizing with employees often fulfilling various roles in an organisation) allowing you to create more than one e-mail signature as required for your clients, colleagues and personal contacts. A nifty tool, to ensure our e-mails are legible, is the Auto Reply format, which automatically sends reply e-mail to the recipient in its original format. E-mails can also be previewed at an adjustable size in the Preview Pane, allowing you to scan messages before actioning them.

INTERNET STANDARDS AND PROTOCOLS

Outlook 98 supports the Versit standards for electronic business cards and appointments. This means you can organise meetings over the Internet and share calendar information to a specified Web site. Contact information, in the form of Internet vCards, can be attached as an electronic business card to your outgoing e-mails. Common protocols supported include POP3/SMTP, IMAP 4, LDAP, NNTP Newsreader and S/MIME.

Continuing with Microsoft's integration of its Web browser and desktop management tools, Outlook is designed to synch with Internet Explorer. Outlook can be launched from IE's quick launch bar, and e-mails and contacts can be created from within the browser. As mentioned earlier, if you format your e-mail messages in HTML, Web pages or Web images can be sent.

A NetMeeting tool provides online conferencing and chat capabilities. With video streaming, other online attendees can be viewed, and programs and documents can be shared over the Web.

OUTLOOK 2000

At press time Microsoft was set to launch its Office 2000 suite of products containing Outlook 2000. Many of the design, customisation and performance glitches were ironed out in Outlook 98, and Outlook 2000 is a versatile package offering further e-mail, calendar, address book and management capabilities.

Microsoft has enhanced e-mail capabilities with Outlook working with Internet service provider (ISP) accounts, Microsoft Exchange and corporate e-mail systems. However, most of these features haven't changed much from Outlook 98.

The coordination between e-mail and PIM features has been taken a step further in Outlook 2000. Each contact record in the address book has a section summarising Outlook information related to the contact, including e-mail messages, appointments and tasks. Wherever you are working in Outlook, the new search window can be accessed to locate a contact record quickly. And because Outlook 2000 serves as a front end to Internet Explorer, you can use the program as a tool to browse the corporate Intranet.

Microsoft has continued to minimise the interface clutter, with menus in this release being more concise, and tools having a Web-style look and feel. Outlook has developed into the client software for Microsoft's Exchange groupware server, and has become a product of strategic importance to the company, hence ensuring its ongoing development.

Microsoft
Ph: 13 2058
Price: $189
www.microsoft.com.au

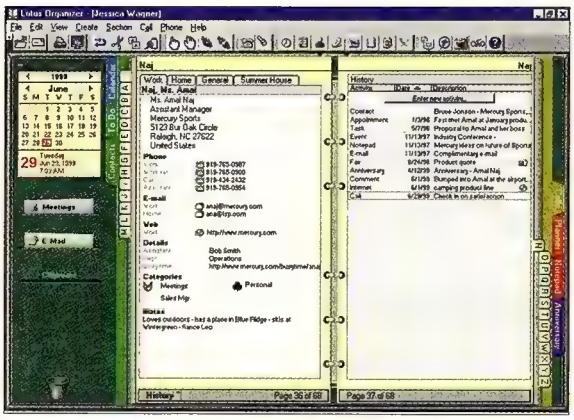
Lotus Organizer 5.0

A common complaint from users of personal information managers is that, in an effort to control their information overload, they find themselves lost in the depth of features most PIMs offer. Lotus Organizer's strength has always been the accessibility of its features and tools, and with its simple interface and powerful contact book and calendar in 5.0, this remains unchanged.

Lotus has retained the familiar spiral bound look (and I am pleased to add the spiral binding works, unlike my traditional organiser where pages slip between the loose claws). Unlike Microsoft's Outlook, Organizer doesn't attempt e-mail or file management. What this release does provide is a beefed up version of its core address book, now called a contacts section, support for the new iCalendar standard and a host of time management tools.

CONTACTS

Lotus has seven key sections organised in the style of a traditional date book.



Organizer 5's new Contact feature allows you to track your history of correspondence, appointments, projects and tasks, relating to a person or group

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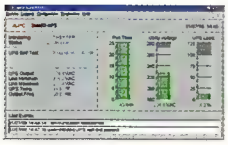

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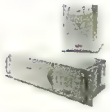
Smart-UPS



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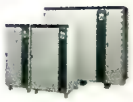

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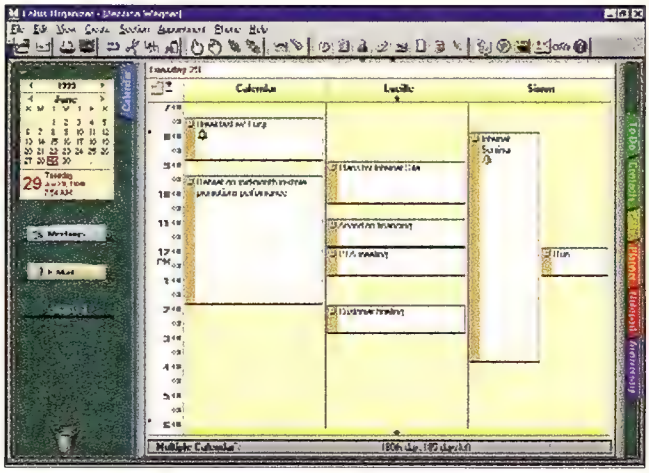


Organizer 5's multiple Calendar feature allows you to view the schedules of colleagues

These include Calendar, Contacts, To Do, Planner, Anniversary and Notepad sections. The new Contacts section has replaced Lotus' previous Address section, and in the process become a comprehensive tool. An expanded number of fields for additional contact information includes up to six addresses per contact, extra telephone numbers, fax numbers, e-mail addresses, and Web site addresses. And if that isn't enough space, then up to 20 custom fields are available for you to include specific contact information. From the Contacts page a user-friendly feature allows you to pre-address an e-mail, or launch a contact's URL in your Web browser with one click. Users can also link relevant contact information using an Autolink feature.

The History view in contacts enables you to see immediately and track any appointments (past and future), tasks, anniversaries, letters, and e-mails. The history can then be sorted by activity, date or description. New information can be added whilst in the history view, so when you are updating information fields you don't have to toggle between different views. To assist in the management of teams or groups of clients or colleagues, individual contacts can be grouped together under a group record. Working in the same fashion as individual contacts, meetings can be scheduled for the group, and the history of meetings and correspondence tracked through the History view.

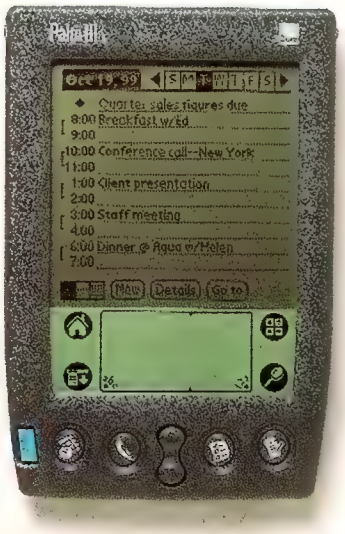
CALENDAR

Lotus has added new pages in its Calendar section to minimise the amount of time spent managing your time, and allowing you to see at a glance what the day involves. The Day Planner view helps a lot in this process, with the new view bringing your appointments on the left-hand side,

Pocket PIMs

The good news about most of today's PIMs is that it's easy to take your schedule, contact information and other important data with you on the road. The most popular mobile option is the PalmPilot, which now ships with ready-made conduit software for exchanging data with Microsoft Outlook.

Working from the other end of the equation, some popular PIMs, like Sidekick 98, are market-savvy enough to include PalmPilot, Rex and Windows CE hot-sync software as built-in menu options. Even if you don't use Sidekick 98 as your preferred PIM, it can serve as a useful "translation station" for your data. Calendars can be imported from Outlook 97, Schedule+ and Lotus Organizer, while contacts can be transferred from most other programs through a generic filter — when you've finished the conversion, hit the sync button and your data is ready to go.



Specialised third-party add-in conduit software can be expensive, but you'll find a solution for almost every possible combination of Palmtop and PIM on the market. Puma's Intellisync range offers direct synchronisation between your Palm or handheld PC and Outlook, Lotus Organizer, ACT!, Goldmine, Sidekick, Novell GroupWise, and a number of other popular PIMs. At the time of going to press, StarFish Software was in the midst of releasing the latest version of its product, Sidekick99. Unfortunately a review copy of the PIM was unavailable in Australia, and the new version is expected to hit our shores in the coming months.

Significantly, Intellisync can distribute your mobile data between a number of PC applications. If, say, you use Lotus Organizer to manage your calendar and Outlook to manage your contacts and e-mail, Intellisync can be configured to put all your data in the right places.

The program also offers intelligent conflict resolution for appointments sharing the same timeslot, and makes field mapping between your PIM and desktop applications easy.

Intellisync's power, however, comes at a price — the downloadable version available on Puma's Web site costs $US69.95. For more information, take a look at www.pumatech.com.

- Phil Campbell

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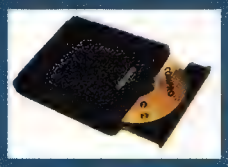

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and a To Do list, Calls, and if required, Daily notes on the right-hand side of the page. The Weekly timeslot view is also new, bringing up a snapshot of your entire week's events. And if you travel across time zones, appointments can be scheduled spanning midnight and into the next day.

INTERNET TOOLS

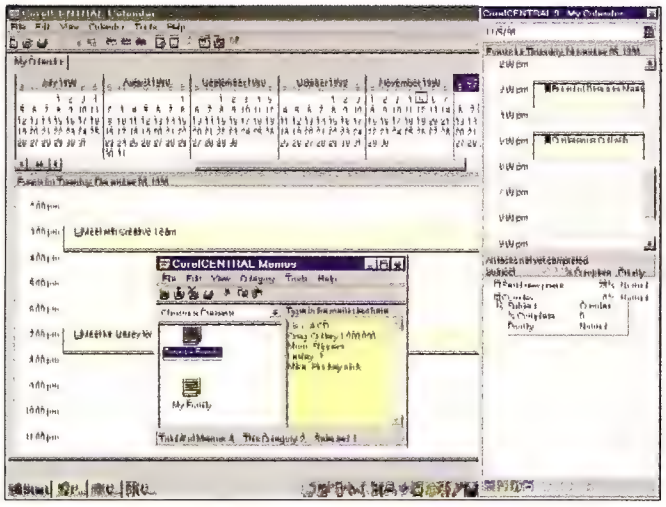
Organizer also incorporates the iCalendar-based Internet scheduling standard, which means that you can schedule over the Internet with anyone using a PIM or contact manager supporting the standard. Tools included in the group-scheduling feature include a Busy time search, enabling a common time for meetings to be arranged. By searching for a free time amongst the meeting attendees, you can ensure there is no doubling up of appointments. You can publish your busy times to a URL, and can also specify whether you want this information published and how often it updates. Meeting information and invites can also be sent out and confirmations received using this standard. Lotus requires a MAPI mail client to enable this feature.

LDAP lookup tools allow you to access online and Internet directories from your PIM, so there's no need to launch a Web browser. The contact results obtained can to be added to your existing contacts.

Organizer also supports vCard and vCalendar standards which, as in Outlook 98, allow you to import information using this standard and directly add it to your Organizer sections, for example contacts or appointments. This can save a lot of typing.

GENERAL FEATURES

Lotus has also made the interface a little snazzier, with new colours, which can be used to highlight Organizer information, and redesigned tabs, to assist in finding information faster. The inclusion of a Date Navigator provides varied views with which to search your Calendar. Move to a specific day, month or year, and access the current date from any view you are working on in Organizer. A status bar running along the bottom of the pages in Organizer's binder can be changed by clicking on the Views pop-up menu, bringing up different information as required. Organizer also remembers where you have been in each section, and comes back to the same spot when you click between entries.



Information inserted in CorelCentral's Calendar is automatically updated to the DayPlanner

One of the downsides to the new version is the omission of support for Lotus Notes. This was available in previous versions, and allowed users to link with Notes databases for corporate scheduling and contacts. Apparently many of the new Organizer features will be available in the Notes 5.0.

While this software may not include the e-mail and file management capabilities of Outlook, this is the PIM for you if you want comprehensive contact management without the clutter. A good streamlined product that can be tailored to suit your needs whether they are simple or complex.

Lotus
Ph: 1800 252 408
Price: $134
www.lotus.com.au

CorelCentral 9

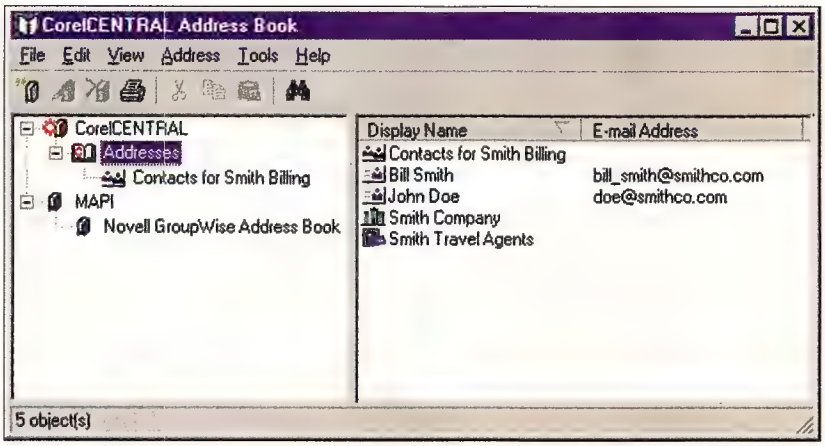
CorelCentral 9 was completely redesigned for the release of WordPerfect Office 2000. Although it is not available as a stand-alone product, Corel has made its PIM easier to use than its previous incarnation and reduced the system requirements and resources it consumes. It offers some great basic features.

Moving away from the feature intensity offer by other PIMs, CorelCentral provides basic tools which are essential to manage contacts and calendar schedules. The DayPlanner section is designed to launch immediately when the computer is booted up. Instead of dominating the whole screen, it appears to the side, allowing users to see at a glance what events and tasks the day holds. When not in use the planner is hidden until required. Integrated with the calendar section, anything scheduled in this section will automatically appear in the planner, and vice-versa if changes are made on the fly in the planner. Corel has ensured that many "local" regions are represented, from Australia to Zimbabwe, so local holidays can be automatically scheduled. Calendar views include day, week and month.

Tasks are also provided for within the calendar, and can be customised to display subject, priority, percentage of a task completed and start and due dates. New events and tasks are easy to pull up from the calendar tab, and alarm options to schedule reminder screens are also featured.

Corel has included Card File and Address book sections to cater for contact information needs. The Card Book acts as an information manager, and allows you to design the cards to suit your needs, which can cover just about anything from inventories, stockist and supplier information to general contact details. Card files can also be grouped together and any e-mail and URL information inserted is hyperlinked.

The Address book can be categorised



Information, such as birthdays, can be inserted in CorelCentral's Address Book. However, this information is not linked with the Calendar section

by person, organisation, resource and group and is distinguished by icons. For example a building icon identifies an organisation, while a single person icon represents individual e-mail details. The Address book section does allow for the allocation of personal information like birthdays, but doesn't link this information with the Calendar section.

Corel
Ph: 1800 658 850
Price: $649
(WordPerfect Office 2000)
www.corel.com.au

RedBox Organizer 2.2

RedBox is a shareware PIM designed for Windows 95/98/NT which offers a lot of power and performance for a low price. Developed by Vladimir Djuric, the software includes all the basic features found in the higher priced PIMs, yet is simple and easy to use. This makes it ideal for anyone trying to get a handle on managing their personal information, yet find the feature set of Outlook and Lotus a little awe-inspiring.

A colourful interface makes a nice change from the muted tones offered in other products and adds a fun element to the software. The only downside to the interface is the North American focus of the design, with many icons, specifically in the Anniversary section, tailored to holidays and seasons specific to that part of the world. It is surprising, with other PIMs designing their products to suit a diverse mix of countries, that users have to click on a snowscape to bring up January, or that Veterans Day is an anniversary choice.

RedBox incorporates all the basic management features including calendar entries with tools to set alarm times and sounds to warn of impending engagements, and the ability to set recurring appointments, such as weekly or monthly meetings. A To Do page allows you to create a list of tasks, and monitor their completion using a selection of colour bands which change with time depending on how long the task has been pending. A Planner feature is included, but provides minimal space to describe the project. Since RedBox isn't a project management application, this is more a token reminder tool as opposed to a management tool.

The Address book is quite extensive for its size and allows for records to be allocated under friends and business tabs. E-mail addresses and company URLs can be included in these folders, and a simple click on a contact's e-mail address or URL will launch an e-mail page, or client Web page. RedBox has expanded on its Internet abilities. Earlier versions provided for Web presentations to be compiled from data in the Calendar section, and in the latest version Web presentations can be made from Address book entries. This means that by publishing your Address book to the Web or corporate server, other people with access to the Internet, or alternatively your corporate Intranet, can view the data. Phone calls can be made from the Address book by clicking on a listed phone number.

RedBox also offers a powerful feature in the form of its linking capabilities, allowing for the entries in any of its sections to be associated. This tool is easy to use, and involves opening the link manager, where you can search for corresponding information in various sections. For example, a contact name may be associated with a calendar appointment. Simply search for the two items, and click on the link text paperclip icon and you can then see and highlight the connection. This feature is not limited to linking two items, and can be extended to reach across multiple entries.

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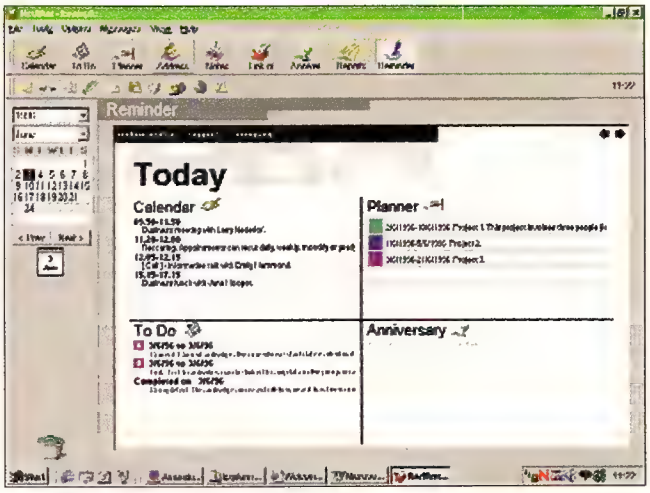
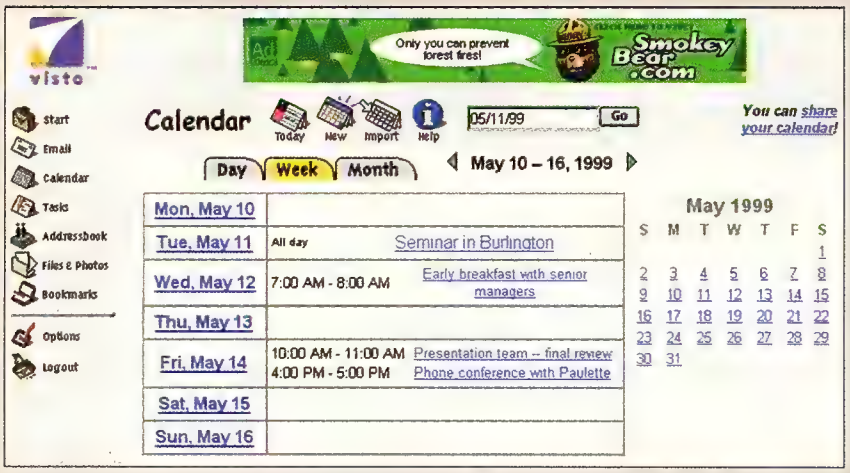


View your appointments, projects and tasks at a glance

Mark your calendars — Web-based schedulers

Free Web-based calendar services are cropping up everywhere. No wonder. Keep your calendar on the Internet, and you can manage it from any PC with a browser and share it with co-workers, friends and family. And Web calendar services can do things desktop personal information managers can't — like meld your personal schedule with information on your daily horoscope.

But don't dump your desktop PIM just yet. If you use a modem to go online, you'd have to dial up and connect to the Net just to check your schedule. And let's face it: downtime happens, even if you've got a persistent Internet connection at work or at home. The prospect of the Web flaking out for an hour or two just when you need to check your schedule is unnerving.



Week links: online calendars like Visto Briefcase let you manage your schedule from any browser and exchange data with popular PIMs

Most of these services are piling on new features at a blistering pace, and a couple of extremely promising contenders, AnyDay.com (www.anyday.com) and Jump (www.jump.com), were still in beta at press time. Of those that were fully up and running, Visto Briefcase (www.briefcase.com) is the standout.

More than most, Briefcase is a true Web-based PIM, with a calendar and to-do list; address book; e-mail; and repositories for files, digital photos and browser bookmarks. It lets you put your calendar, photos and files on a Web page that can be viewed by other netizens. You can even restrict access with a password. Briefcase also offers the most possibilities for exchanging data with desktop PCs. Its free Windows utility transfers data between Briefcase and Outlook, Lotus Organizer, and other applications; synchronises its e-mail inbox with a desktop mail client; and can even direct files automatically between Briefcase and your desktop PC.

But Briefcase also has its share of nicks and scuffs. Unlike most desktop PIMs, it offers no way to search your calendar, and its e-mail doesn't rival the best stand-alone Web e-mail services (for example, you can't send blind carbon copies of messages).

Ultimately, we recommend using a Web-based calendar as a complement to your desktop PIM, not as a replacement. Many of these services can automatically synchronise with popular PIMs and with 3Com's Palm organisers. That capability gives you the best of both worlds: the ability to manage your schedule with a desktop package at the office, then switch to the Web when you're at home or on the road, or need to share appointments with others.

- Harry McCracken and Glenn McDonald

Visto Briefcase leads the Web Calendar race — for now

SERVICE	What's hot	What's not	Bottom line
AnyDay.com (www.anyday.com)	Highly customisable calendar and to-do list; nice interface.	Beta version can't sync with PIMs or track current events.	Tune in tomorrow.
Day-Timer Digital (digital.daytimer.com)	Tracks current events; provides to-do list and multiple views.	Hard to navigate; can't share calendar; no address book.	When.com has the edge as an event guide.
Jump (www.jump.com)	Slickly integrates calendar, address book, and e-mail.	Beta version is a bit slow and has a few usability quirks.	Another extremely promising beta product.
MagicalDesk (www.magicaldesk.com)	Offers e-mail, to-do list, and file sharing, all without ads.	No calendar sync (yet); no weekly view or current events.	Visto Briefcase Jr.
PlanetAll (www.planetall.com)	Ingenious networking features; syncs with Outlook and PDAs.	Lacks to-do list; won't share most calendar data with others.	Sterling address book, so-so calendar.
Visto Briefcase (www.briefcase.com)	Strong to-do list, good e-mail and tools for sharing data.	Can't search calendar; doesn't follow current events.	The closest thing to a full-blown PIM on the Web.
When.com (www.when.com)	Tracks movies, book releases, and lots more; very easy to use.	No to-do list; can't share personal calendar.	Social butterfly, but not for business.
Yahoo Calendar (calendar.yahoo.com)	Multiple schedule views; syncs with Outlook and PalmPilots.	Spartan look; no event tracking; limited calendar sharing.	If you love Yahoo, you'll like this calendar.

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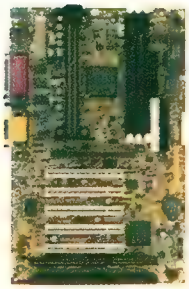

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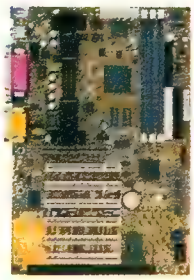

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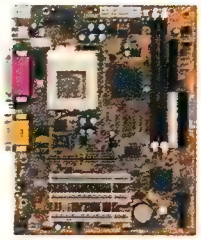
- SafeBIOS protects system from virus and failed boot-up procedures.
- ***Y2K/PC99*** Compliant



MS-6178/Intel810 • Socket 370

- Supports socket370 for Intel®Celeron™ processors up to 466MHz and higher
- Chip integrated video, on board 4MB display cache is optional.
- One AMR and One **PTI** (Panel-link and TV-out Interface) slots
- STR (Suspend To RAM)
- ***Y2K/PC99*** Compliant

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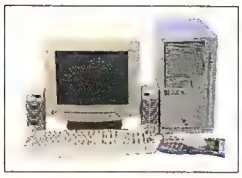
pc world BEST BUYS

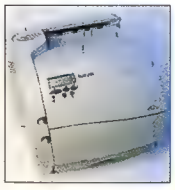
July sees the spotlight fall on notebook computers and we review half a dozen systems with some interesting observations and results. The NEC Versa LX recorded the highest PC WorldBench score we have seen, while Toshiba submitted a Celeron-powered Tecra 8000 that put most of the Pentium II-powered notebooks to shame. Pioneer submitted the first AMD K6-2 400MHz notebook to enter the Test Centre. To complement our testing we asked some market analysts from IDC a few curly questions about the notebook market and found out that the average price paid for a notebook in 1998 was around the $4500 mark.

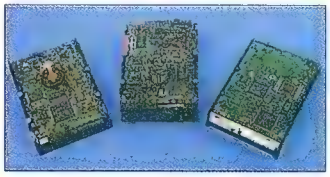
In the PC section we finally get a look at a system with the new Intel 810 chip set, which is aimed at the low-end market. By incorporating the graphics and audio on-board it focuses on cutting costs and helps to push the price of PCs down even further. The system submitted by Beyond features a 466MHz Celeron which provided performance comparable to a 400MHz Pentium II system for less than $1700.

Our printer review sees a battle between a 32ppm Xerox, the new Kyocera FS-3700+ and the Lexmark Optra S 1855, while in the Scanner section, Agfa submitted their translucent green USB SnapScan 1212u as well as the baby of the DuoScan range, the T1200, and proved why they have been a driving force in the scanner market for so long. Several SCSI drives also entered our reviews from Fujitsu, Western Digital and Seagate. The market has changed considerably since we last looked at SCSI drives in March. Prices have dropped and performance has almost doubled with Ultra2, making SCSI drives better value than ever.

- Spiro Hionis, Test Centre Manager







Your guide to the Best Buys

HOW DO THE CHARTS WORK?

The Best Buy charts are evolving lists of the best computer hardware we've tested. PC and notebook charts are divided by price: Power PCs cost $2250 or more, and Power notebooks cost $4150 or more. Other product categories are divided by price or function. We compare new products to previously reviewed hardware, updating the charts each month to reflect price cuts and other changes.

WHAT ABOUT THE PRICES?

The prices quoted are the recommended retail price, which includes sales tax, as supplied to us by the vendor. Prices and test results are *only* for the system or product *as supplied to us*, not a similar configuration or model that might be available — please note this when discussing prices with vendors. We make every effort to keep pricing and specs current, but it is a good idea to check with the vendor for up-to-the-minute pricing.

HOW ARE PRODUCTS RATED?

All products are ranked according to a Value rating. The Value rating is calculated from scores in the following areas: Overall Quality/Output Quality, Features, Price, Warranty, Service/Support, and Ergonomics/Ease of Use. The weightings assigned to each area for each product category are based on the results of PC World's 1998 Brand Awareness Study, which surveyed the importance these product characteristics to Australian computer users. Performance scores are added to get a final Value rating.

WHAT DO THE BENCHMARKS FOR PCs AND NOTEBOOKS MEAN?

PC WorldBench 98 runs test scripts using real versions (that is, not simulations) of common applications to measure 2D performance. This benchmark tests the speed of the entire system, from the hard drive to the graphics adapter. Applications used are Microsoft Word, Lotus Word Pro, Microsoft Excel, Lotus 1-2-3, Corel Paradox and Micrografx Picture Publisher. The PC WorldBench 98 score is a measure of how fast a system is in relation to the baseline machine, a Gateway PMMX-200 with 32MB RAM, 2GB hard drive and 512K secondary cache. A PC that scores 200, for example, is twice as fast as the baseline system.

Final Reality is a benchmark developed by VNU European Labs and Remedy Entertainment for testing processing power of 3D and 2D graphics, and bus transfer. (You can download it from www.finalreality.com to test your own system.) This benchmark generates a score compared to a baseline system of a Pentium 150MHz (non-MMX) with a S3 Virge/VX graphics subsystem.

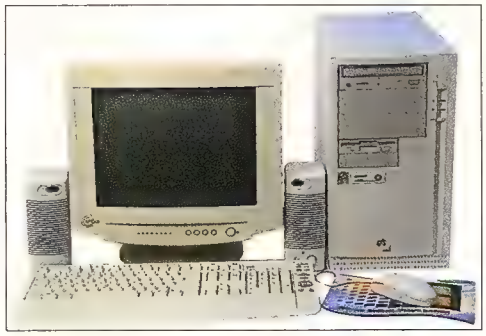
pc world BEST BUYS

PCs

BY SPIRO HIONIS AND ELIAS PLASTIRAS

AMD-based machines once again dominate the Value chart, holding down four of the five positions. But don't be too surprised, if in the next few months, the chart becomes infested with Celeron-based systems using Intel's new 810 chipset. Intel designed the 810 chipset specifically for low-cost machines which use Celeron processors, but did not want to sacrifice performance — and it has succeeded.

The 810 chipset is an integrated solution which contains graphics and audio controllers on the motherboard, eliminating the need for add-on cards, and therefore reducing system costs for manufacturers. There are currently three versions of the 810 chipset, each with a slightly different market focus. One of the systems we look at this month, from Beyond Computers, contains the third variation of this chipset, which includes ATA/66 support and 4MB display cache.



GES Cesky CD

The Beyond SuperO Professional system is armed with a 466Mhz 370-pin Celeron processor and 64MB PC-100 SDRAM, and it produced great results during benchmarking. The machine scored a 198 in PC WorldBench, but it was the graphics, and in particular the 3D performance of the system that really caught our attention. The Final Reality score of 3.85 is currently the highest score of all the PCs in the Value category, and gaming performance was excellent. We tested the machine with Need For

pc world BEST BUYS Power Desktops

		Last Month	Issue reviewed	Value rating	Price	CPU	RAM (MB)	Hard disk
1	Dell Dimension XPS T500	1	Apr 99	85.9	$3557	Intel Pentium III 500	128	13.6GB IBM
2	Gateway Performance 500	4	Apr 99	82.9	$3799	Intel Pentium III 50	128	12.9GB IBM
3	Also Vogue Power 500	3	Jun 99	82.3	$2895	Intel Pentium III 500	128	8.4GB Quantum Fireball CR
4	BlueFire HyperStation 400	2	Apr 99	80.3	$2490	Intel Pentium II 400	64	6.4GB Quantum Fireball EX
4	GES Cesky CD	NEW	Jun 99	77.9	$2399	Intel Pentium II 400	64	8.4GB IBM
5	BlueFire HyperStation 350	5	Dec 98	77.9	$2260	Intel Pentium II 350	64	5.1GB Quantum Fireball EL

pc world BEST BUYS Value Desktops

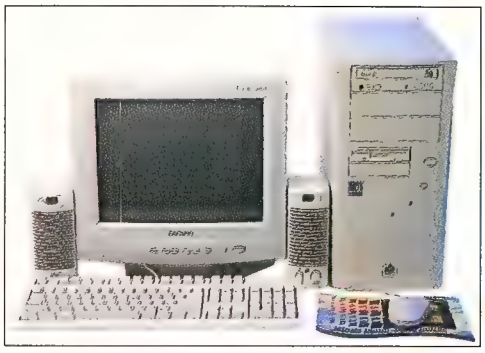
1	Peripherals Plus K6-2 400	3	Apr 99	73.0	$1575	AMD K6-2 400	64	6.4GB Quantum Fireball EX
2	Peripherals Plus K6-2 300	1	Oct 98	72.3	$1395	AMD K6-2 300	64	5.1GB Quantum Fireball EL
3	Peripherals Plus K6-2 350	NEW	Jul 99	72.2	$1395	AMD K6-2 350	64	6.4GB Quantum Fireball CR
4	Also Vogue Deluxe 350	2	Feb 99	70.3	$1595	AMD K6-2 350	64	6.4GB Quantum Fireball EX
5	Beyond SuperO Professional	NEW	Jul 99	68.5	$1650	Intel Celeron 466	64	4.3GB Quantum Fireball CR

Speed III and Toca 2, and there was no noticeable drop in frame rates. The games played very smoothly and looked great to boot! The Quake II Timedemo benchmark was also run, and at 640 x 480 resolution, the SuperO clocked 30 frames per second. This peformance can probably be attributed to improvements made in the input/output controller and graphics subsystem. The system uses main memory to store graphics information (the 4MB on-board display cache is primarily used for 3D operations), and therefore, a major redesign of current methods was undertaken resulting in improvements to the way memory is managed between the system and the graphics subsystem.

Other noticeable differences found on this system include integrated audio, support for a 100MHz front side bus (although no Celeron CPUs currently support this frequency) and the elimination of the ISA bus. The motherboard has three PCI slots available for expansion while there are two DIMM slots for memory. The components are housed in a very solid mid-tower case which contains two 5.25in and four 3.5in drive bays. There is also room for a second fan. It ships with a 15in NEC Multisync V500 monitor (with a viewable area of 13.8in) and a 4.3GB Quantum Fireball CR hard drive which is ATA/66 ready, providing double the throughput of current ATA33 hard drives. The Beyond SuperO Professional is perhaps the perfect system for the family — at $1650 it's cheap, provides great applications performance, and the kids can also play games on it. The system was restricted to fifth position on the Value chart on account of the lack of bundled software.

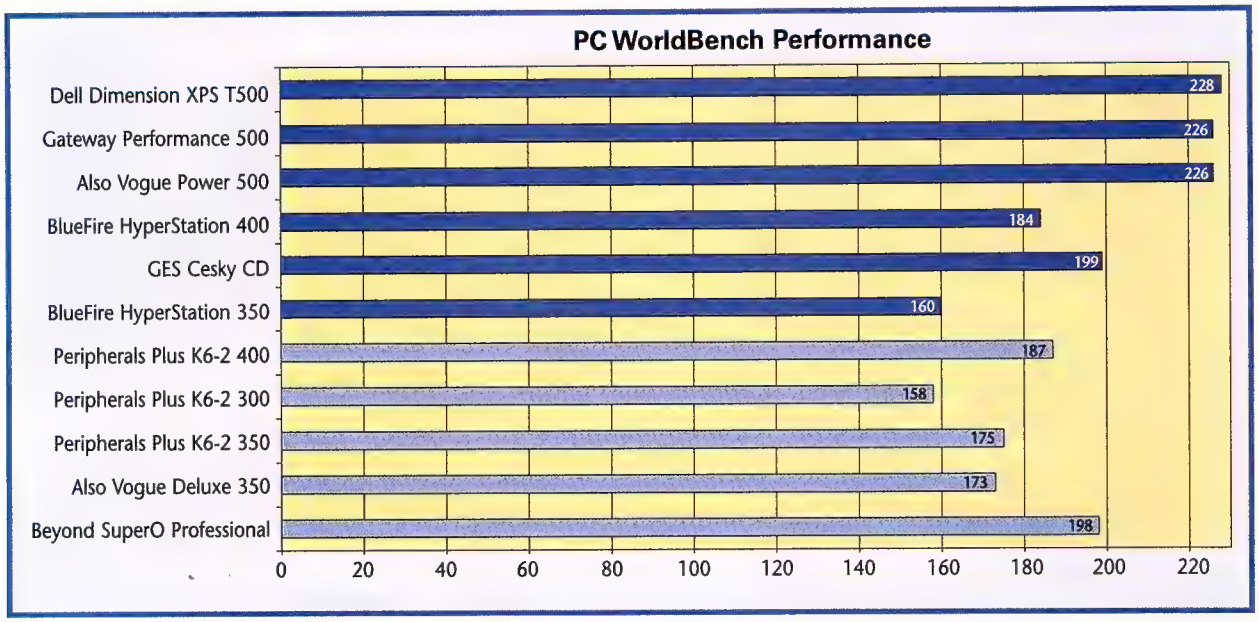
Two other machines were reviewed this month, one a Pentium II system from GES and the other an AMD K6-2 system from Peripherals Plus.

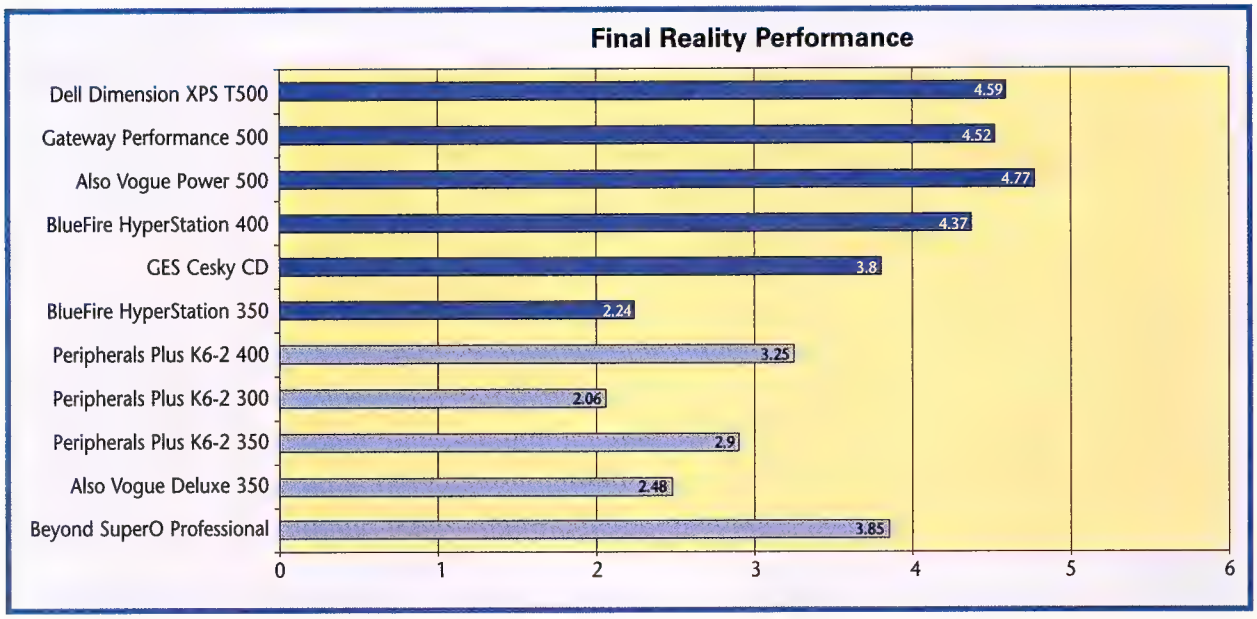
Peripherals Plus is typically strong in the Value category, and this month sees the company taking out the first three placings with its K6-2 line of systems ranging from 300MHz to 400MHz. This month we looked at the K6-2 350. The machine produced very good results in PC WorldBench, averaging 175 from its three runs, and was also adequate in our Final Reality tests, obtaining an overall score of 2.9. The machine contains 64MB SDRAM, a 6.4GB hard drive, a Trident 4D 64-voice wavetable PCI sound card and a Trident Blade 3D graphics card. Expansion is handled by two 3.5in and



Peripherals Plus K6-2 350

Graphics adapter/bus	Video RAM	Monitor	Warranty	Vendor	Phone
STB nVidia RIVA TNT/AGP	16MB SGRAM	17in Dell D1025TM	3 years/ 1 year on-site	Dell Computer www.dell.com.au	1800 335 502
STB nVidia RIVA TNT/AGP	16MB SGRAM	17in Gateway EV700	3 years/ 1 year on-site	Gateway www.gw2k.com.au	1800 500 731
Diamond Viper V550/AGP	16MB SDRAM	17in Mitsubishi Diamond Plus 71	2 years parts/ 5 years labour	Also Technology www.alsotech.com.au	(02) 9519 4600
Matrox Millennium G200/AGP	8MB SGRAM	15in Philips 105S	3 years on-site	BlueFire www.bluefire.com.au	(02) 9439 4394
Joytech Apollo 7400	8MB SGRAM	15in Liteon	3 years on-site	Digiland www.digiland.com.au	1300 652 005
Trident 3D Image SP975/AGP	4MB SGRAM	15in Panasonic E50i	3 years on-site	BlueFire www.bluefire.com.au	(02) 9439 4394
nVidia RIVA 128ZX /AGP	8MB SGRAM	15in Daewoo 518X	3 years on-site national	Peripherals Plus www.perplus.com.au	(02) 9630 3166
Trident 9850/AGP	4MB SGRAM	15in Daewoo 518B	3 years (on-site optional)	Peripherals Plus www.perplus.com.au	(02) 9630 3166
Trident Blade Pro/AGP	8MB SDRAM	15in Daewoo 518X	3 years (on-site optional)	Peripherals Plus www.perplus.com.au	(02) 9630 3166
Diamond Viper V550/AGP	16MB SDRAM	15in Mitsubishi 1570I	2 years parts/ 5 years labour	Also Technology www.alsotech.com.au	(02) 9519 4600
Intel 810 Integrated graphics	4MB display cache	15in NEC Multisync V500	2 years RTB	Beyond Computers www.beyondcomputers.com.au	(02) 9417 3688





three 5.25in drive bays, while the motherboard has three ISA, four PCI and three DIMM slots. Bundled software includes Lotus SmartSuite, Norton AntiVirus and Norton Virtual Drive, which allows you to copy CD-ROMs directly to your hard drive and run them from there without needing the CD-ROM. The system is priced at $1395 and is available from Peripherals Plus.

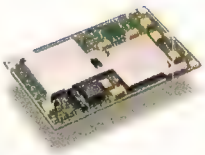
The third machine we reviewed this month came to us from Digiland, who sent in their GES Cesky CD. Powered by a Pentium II 400 processor and equipped with 64MB SDRAM and an i740 graphics adapter, this machine proved to be more than adequate in all facets of our testing. It ranks equal fifth on our Power chart. The machine averaged a score of 199 over its three PC WorldBench runs, and finished with an overall score of 3.8 in Final Reality.

Other features of the machine include an 8.4GB IBM hard drive, a 16-bit ESS sound card, an internal 56K modem that also has a phone pass-through, and a 40x CD-ROM drive, which actually provided the fastest transfer rates of all the CD-ROM drives we have seen so far in the Best Buys. The system comes housed in a bulky mid-tower case which should ideally be placed underneath a desk. It has two 3.5in and three 5.25in drive bays, while the motherboard has four PCI and three ISA slots along with three DIMM slots. The motherboard is jumperless and allows you to change the CPU frequency settings through the BIOS. The machine ships with a 15in monitor that has a viewable area of 13.9in, and comes with Norton AntiVirus software.

SLIM & ALL-IN-ONE

Pearl

NOTEBOOKS 5300C/3300C Series



PENTIUM II 300/366 MHz
INTEL CELERON 366MHz/433 MHz

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pc world BEST BUYS Notebooks

The Best Buys spotlight falls on notebook computers this month, so we rounded up six notebooks from Acer, NEC, IBM, Toshiba, GES and Pioneer. We think there's something here to satisfy everyone from the mobile executive to the most budget-conscious user.

We also had a chat with Rupinder Toor and Logan Ringland — two of IDC's market analysts involved in the creation of IDC market forecasts for the notebook and desktop markets. We asked them which were the most popular notebook brands for different market sectors; what was the average price paid; what they thought of notebooks marketed as "desktop replacements", and where they saw the notebook heading in the new millennium.

Research from IDC indicates that currently notebooks make up 18 per cent of total PC shipments and this figure is expected to grow to 20 per cent by 2003. As for the highest selling notebook brands, Toshiba has an almost complete stranglehold. According to IDC, more people in the corporate, small to medium enterprise (SME), SOHO and education sectors buy a Toshiba than any other brand. The only market that Toshiba doesn't dominate is the home market, where Compaq holds the most appeal and the highest sales.

The current No. 1 machine in the Power Category is the Dell Inspiron 7000 A366GT, which could be classed as a desktop replacement machine. We asked IDC who these type of machines appeal to most and are they truly "desktop replacements". This is what they had to say: "Some of the higher-end notebooks are on par in performance with desktops. They plug into the network when in the office and when on the move they use remote access. This functionality, combined with technical specifications of the top-end notebooks is appealing to regional managers, executives who are always travelling or always out of the office."

pc world BEST BUYS Power Notebooks

		Last Month	Issue reviewed	Value rating	Price	CPU	RAM (MB)	Hard disk
1	Dell Inspiron 7000 A366GT	1	May 99	79	$5827	Intel Pentium II 366	128	10.2GB
2	Acer TravelMate 515T	NEW	Jul 99	65	$4295	Intel Pentium II 300	32	4.3GB
2	GES AION 4000	NEW	Jul 99	65	$4399	Intel Pentium II 266	64	6.4GB
3	Toshiba Tecra 8000	NEW	Jul 99	63	$5510	Intel Celeron 333	64	6.4GB
4	Toshiba Portege 7020CT	3	May 99	60	$7970	Intel Pentium II 366	64	6.4GB
4	NEC Versa LX	NEW	Jul 99	60	$7999	Intel Pentium II 366	64	10.2GB
4	IBM ThinkPad 570	NEW	Jul 99	60	$6799	Intel Pentum II 366	64	6.4GB

pc world BEST BUYS Value Notebooks

1	GES AION 2000	1	Jun 99	60	$2699	Intel 266MMX Tillamook	32	4.3GB
2	Pioneer 2000 Valuebook	NEW	Jul 99	59	$2599	AMD K6-2 400	64	4.3GB
3	IBM ThinkPad i Series 1411	2	Jun 99	58	$3699	Intel Pentium 300MMX	32	4.3GB
4	Twinhead Slimnote VX	5	May 99	51	$3599	Intel Pentium II 266	32	3GB

PRICES

Our notebooks this month ranged in price from $2599 for the new AMD K6-2 400 driven Pioneer 2000 Valuebook, making its debut at No. 2 in the Value category, to $7999 for the high-spec, high-performance NEC Versa LX, which makes its debut at equal fifth in the Power category.

We noticed some distinguishing features within this range when we examined the above-mentioned notebooks as well as the GES AION 4000, the IBM ThinkPad 570, the Acer TravelMate 515T and the Toshiba Tecra 8000. In this very competitive market, the average price paid for a notebook in 1998 was $4469. As a point of interest, the average of the prices listed in July's Value Notebooks category is $3149, while the average price in the Power Notebooks category is $6114.

I'M AN INDIVIDUAL

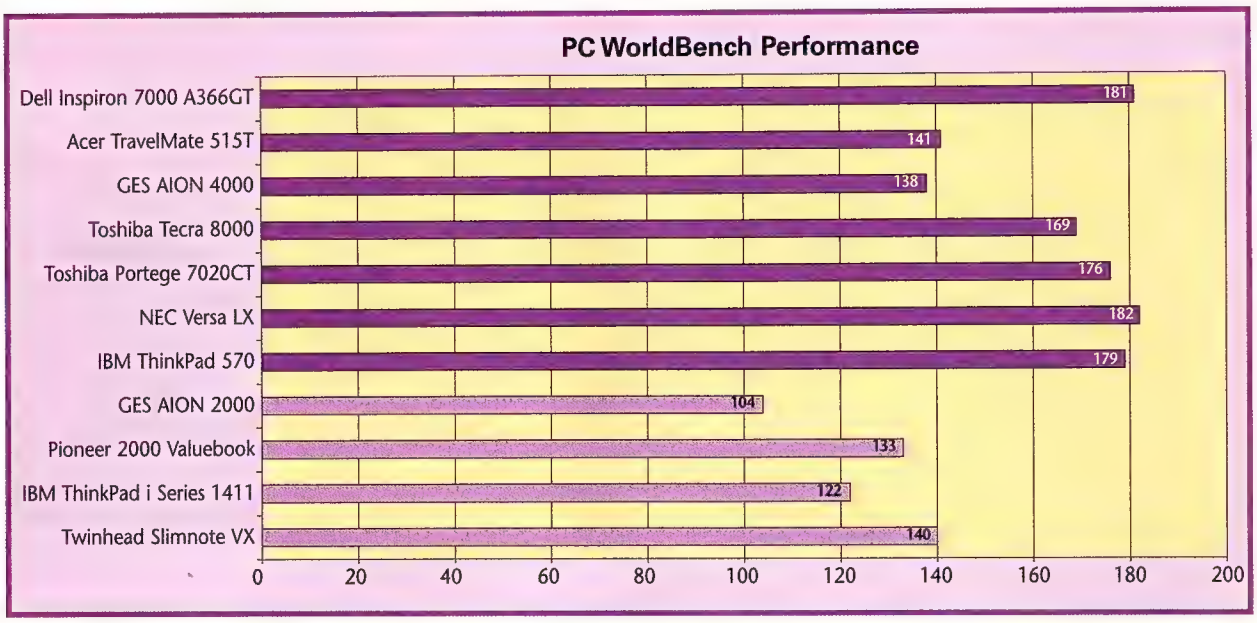
The Toshiba Tecra 8000 differs from the rest by being the first Celeron-powered machine in the Power category. It scored the third highest performance score this month, only beaten by the NEC Versa LX and the ThinkPad 570 which are both powered by Pentium II 366 processors. The NEC Versa LX deserves honourable mention as the fastest performing notebook we have tested. It received a PC WorldBench score of 182, narrowly beating the previous high score holder and current No. 1, the Dell Inspiron 7000. Its trump card is the 8MB AGP ATI Rage LT Pro graphics adapter which assisted its overall performance evaluation greatly as well as making the Versa LX ideal for portable 3D graphics.

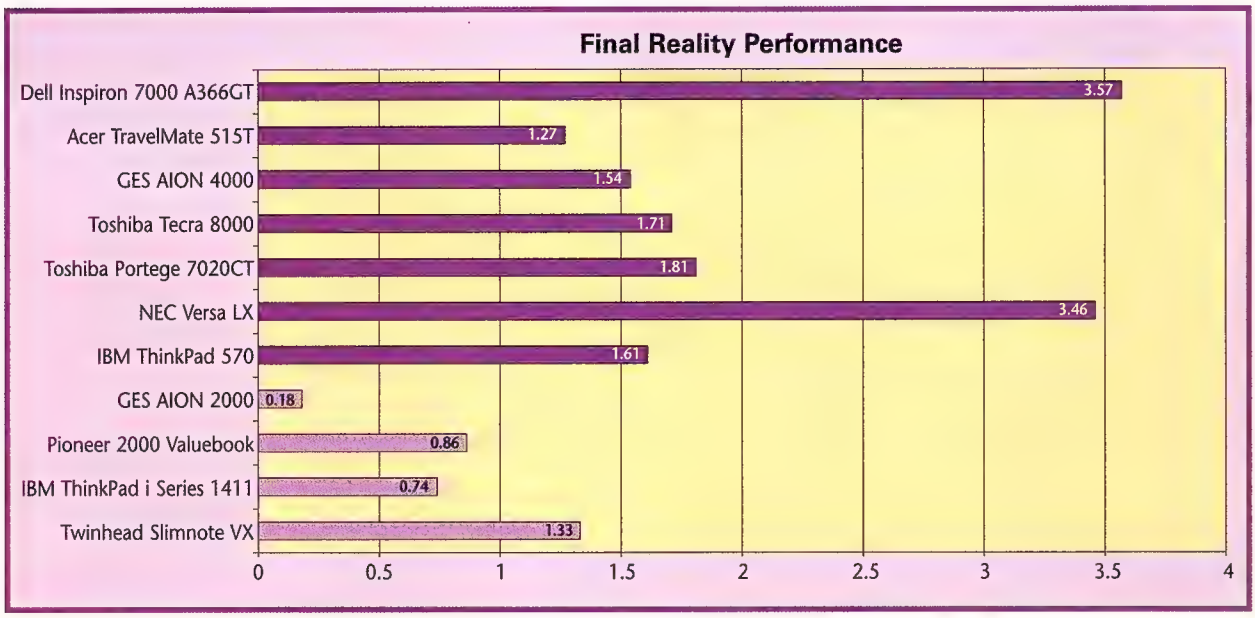
The IBM ThinkPad 570 was by far the thinnest and lightest notebook in the review, weighing in at a meagre 1.83kg and with dimensions of 300mm x 240mm x 27.95mm. This doesn't stop it from featuring a 366MHz PII processor and 13.3in screen, nor did it stop the ThinkPad 570 from outperforming every notebook ever tested bar the NEC Versa LX and the Dell Inspiron 7000.

NO CELL OUT!

Being portable devices, notebooks naturally need to have batteries for those times you can't reach a power point. Without a doubt, battery performance will make the difference between accessing your data when you need to most or accessing vulgar profanities when you need to least. The first batteries used were of the nickel cadmium variety and after a few uses invariably ended up with the lifespan of a burning match. The batteries were not totally to blame as control over power management at the time left something to be desired. Things improved somewhat with the nickel metal hydride battery, which didn't "ghost" as badly as its predecessor and with reasonable care could produce an acceptable lifespan. Five out of the six notebooks we received this month shipped with a lithium ion battery boasting lifespans from two to

Graphics adapter	Video RAM	Display	Warranty	Vendor	Phone
ATI Rage LT Pro 2X AGP	8MB VRAM	15in Active TFT	1 year RTB	Dell www.dell.com.au	1800 335 502
NeoMagic NM2200	2.5MB SGRAM	12.1in Active TFT	1 year RTB	Acer www.acer.com.au	(02) 9870 1999
S3 Virge/MX	4MB SGRAM	14.1in Active TFT	2 years RTB	Digiland www.digiland.com.au	1300 652 005
NeoMagic NM2200	2.5MB SGRAM	13.3in Active TFT	3 years parts & labour	Toshiba www.toshiba.com.au	1800 021 100
NeoMagic NM2200	2.5MB SGRAM	13.3in Active TFT	3 years parts & labour	Toshiba www.toshiba.com.au	1800 021 100
ATI Rage LT Pro 2X AGP	8MB VRAM	14.1in Active TFT	3 years RTB	NEC www.nec.com.au	131 632
NeoMagic MagicMedia 256AV	2.5MB SDRAM	13.3in Active TFT	3 years/Express Pickup 1st year	IBM www.ibm.com.au	1800 815 154
Chips & Technology	2MB DRAM	12.1in Active TFT	2 years RTB	Digiland www.digiland.com.au	1300 652 005
Trident 9685	2MB VRAM	12.1in Active TFT	1 year parts/ 5 years labour	Pioneer Computers www.pioneercomputers.com.au	(02) 9690 2888
NeoMagic MagicGraph 128XD	2MB DRAM	12.1in Active TFT	1 year RTB	IBM www.ibm.com.au	1800 815 154
Trident Cyber 9388	2MB VRAM	12.1in Active TFT	2 years parts and labour/ 1 year screen & battery	Westan www.westan.com.au	(02) 9417 2133 (03) 9563 6775





four hours. This type of battery lasts longer than either of the previous two as well as addressing the "ghosting" problem in a more substantial fashion. If you intend to, or already use your notebook predominantly with battery power, it is best to use a strategy so as to ensure you are not caught out, irrespective of which battery type your notebook has. One of the best ways to maintain useable battery life is to plug your notebook into the mains outlet only when the battery has run itself completely flat. Make the most of the notebook's options for power management to tailor the machine to your type of use. For example, you can set it to go into standby or suspend mode after a user-prescribed period of time, or you can control individual components' use of power via the Power Management facility in the Windows Control Panel. Best of all, invest in a second battery and rotate them as required in conjunction with the above tips.

LIGHTEN UP

Portable means you need to lug it around and it will at times sit on your lap. Notebooks that have been submitted to the Test Centre weigh in at between 3 and 4kg on average, and different weights usually indicate the weight difference is meaningful. The notebooks closest to the 4kg mark are usually fully-featured and have everything built in including CD-ROM or DVD drives, floppy drives etc. You carry your machine around and when you need to you just pull it out, power it up and you're ready to go. As notebooks get lighter, espe-

continued page 118

Western Digital scsi drives with

Data Lifeguard

The Triton series scsi Hard Drives are here. They come in a huge capacity of 9.1GB or 18.2GB. They are AV optimised with a 4MB cache for your most demanding applications.This combined with a five year warranty and the new exclusive Data Lifeguard feature means that Western Digital Hard drives are the best on the market today.

Data Lifeguard protects end user data by automatically detecting, isolating and repairing possible problem areas before data loss can occur. This new feature is always enabled and works independently preventing possible system down time by warning the user of the impending risk of Hard Drive failure. This represents Western Digital's ongoing commitment to data protection.

Data Lifeguard™

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Western Digital

NEC VERSA LX PII 366

The Versa LX has the distinction of being the first machine to be able to beat the performance benchmark high score set by the Dell Inspiron 7000 in May. Configuration includes the Pentium II 366MHz processor, 64MB RAM and the very powerful 8MB ATI Rage Pro LT AGP 2x graphics adapter. The Versa LX boasts one of the best 14.1in active displays that we have seen, providing vibrant colours and good wide screen viewability. A 10GB hard disk drive is standard, as is the 24x CD-ROM drive, ESS Maestro sound adapter and stereo speakers built into the generous palm rest. The keyboard feels as good as any on a desktop and pointing duties are handled by the Versa Glide (glidepad) mouse.

By any account the Versa LX is a large and comparatively heavy (3.35kg) notebook, yet keep in mind that barring an internal modem (which it lacks) it is a fully featured notebook. Power is handled by a high-capacity 12-cell lithium ion battery that should provide 3-4 hours of portable life. The battery also has an external button and LED display to indicate battery status at the touch of a button. Standard connectivity includes USB, infrared, PS/2, TV/Video Out, PC Card with CardBus and Zoomed Video support as well as the usual range of parallel, serial and VGA ports. Warranty is a substantial three years with options for on-site support. But the asking price of $7999 is a little steep and makes it the most highly priced notebook to appear on the charts. Its excellent performance and 14.1in display contributed greatly to its debut as equal No. 5 in the Power category.

Pros:	Outstanding performance, outstanding 14.1in display, 8MB AGP graphics adapter, 10GB hard drive, 3-year warranty
Cons:	Weight, price, no modem
Price:	$7999
Warranty:	3 years
Web:	www.nec.com.au

IBM THINKPAD 570

The ThinkPad 570 is one of IBM's range of UltraPortable notebook solutions. 64MB RAM combines with the Intel Pentium II 366MHz processor, 6.4GB IBM hard disk drive and 2.5MB NeoMagic graphics adapter to give the highest performance scores we have ever seen from an IBM notebook and the third highest performance score we have ever seen a notebook achieve. Combine this level of performance with the 13.3in active TFT display in a very slim (27.95mm high) and very light (1.83kg) package which includes a built-in 56Kbps modem and you have a formidable and flexible hardware platform for the mobile executive. New innovations include the latest TrackPoint pointing device, which is the only device of its type incorporating "Press to Select" (lets you click by depressing the controller) scroll select and magnifying glass capabilities. Network managers will be happy to note that the ThinkPad 570 ships with optional Windows NT in preference to Windows 98. Other bundled software includes Lotus Smartsuite Millennium, Ring Central, Norton Mobile Essentials and Norton AntiVirus. Like its direct competitor the Toshiba Portege 7020CT, the ThinkPad keeps its svelte shape by omitting some items such as built-in CD-ROM and floppy drives. The system ships with an attachable floppy drive, but should you need multimedia capabilities, there is a very snazzy and versatile docking station solution that can be purchased optionally. Congratulations IBM on a very substantial UltraPortable notebook that debuts at equal fifth in the Power category.

Pros:	Outstanding performance, built-in modem, bundled software, 3-year warranty
Cons:	Detached floppy disk drive, no CD-ROM drive as standard
Price:	$6799
Warranty:	3 years (express pickup in first year)
Web:	www.ibm.com.au

GES AION 4000

With the exception of the Pentium II 266MHz processor, the AION 4000 is a very nicely configured machine. It boasts a 14.1in active TFT screen using a 4MB S3 graphics adapter to push the pixels. A 6.4GB IBM hard disk drive combines with the standard 64MB RAM. The AION 4000 also provides multimedia via the 24x CD-ROM drive and ESS 3D sound adapter with built-in 2MB wavetable. Sound quality from the stereo speakers located above the keyboard is quite good although external speakers would let you enjoy the full range of the sound card. Connectivity incorporates USB, infrared, PS/2, TV/Video Out, Type II and III PC Card, CardBus & Zoomed video support as well as parallel, serial and VGA ports.

You cannot help but notice the size of the AION 4000. Weighing 3.6kg and having dimensions of 330 x 257 x 58 mm definitely puts this notebook into the heavyweight category. In its defence, the asking price of $4399 makes it the lowest-priced notebook with a 14.1in screen. Power is supplied via the lithium ion battery that provides a stated life of two hours. The floppy disk drive can be removed and an optional second battery installed if necessary. No software other than Windows 98 is bundled with the system, although it does ship with a carry case. Its features, asking price and two-year warranty make the AION 4000 very good value for money and it debuts in equal second position in this month's Power category.

Pros:	TV-Out, 4MB S3 graphics adapter, 14.1in screen, carry case
Cons:	Older Pentium II 266MHz processor, weight, size, no bundled software
Price:	$4399
Warranty:	2 years RTB
Web:	www.ges.com.sg

PIONEER 2000 VALUEBOOK

Priced at $2599, the Valuebook certainly lives up to its name and has the distinction of being the lowest-priced notebook appearing in our charts. It weighs in at 3.2kg, is powered by a new AMD K2-400 CPU combined with 64MB RAM and a 4.3GB hard drive. Performance was on par with a 266MHz Pentium II — more than adequate to handle the bundled software that includes Lotus Smartsuite, World Book Encyclopedia and Norton AntiVirus.

The 12.1in active TFT display has a native resolution of 800 x 600 (24-bit colour) and is coupled to a 2MB Trident 9685, which performed poorly in our tests. Multimedia is courtesy of the built-in 24x CD-ROM drive hooked up to the ESS 1869 sound adapter which pumps sound through the stereo speakers located above the keyboard. Connectivity is provided by USB, infrared, PC Card as well as the usual serial, parallel, PS2 and VGA ports. The mouse duties are handled well by a glidepad nestled in the middle of the generous palm rest below the keyboard.

Portable power is supplied by a NiMH battery, making the Valuebook the only system tested with this type of battery. It has a stated life of 2–3 hours. Despite its drawbacks, the Pioneer 2000 Valuebook is great value for money and debuts in the No. 2 position in our Value category.

Pros:	Low price, multimedia, bundled software
Cons:	Maximum screen resolution 800 x 600, NiMH battery instead of Li Ion, poor graphics performance, 4.3GB HDD comparatively small
Price:	$2599
Warranty:	1 year parts, 5 years labour
Web:	www.pioneercomputers.com.au

ACER TRAVELMATE 515T

The 3.1kg TravelMate 515T is a multimedia-equipped notebook powered by a lithium ion battery and an Intel PII 300MHz processor. Performance is good and it will execute all standard office tasks with ease. However, there would be a noticeable performance improvement with 64MB RAM instead of the standard 32MB.

Multimedia comes in the form of a 24x built-in CD-ROM drive coupled to an ESS PCI sound card. The CD-ROM drive has a dedicated power switch, LCD display and CD controls on the front of the notebook allowing it to work autonomously. The bundled AudioRack software gives you the opportunity of enjoying 3D Spatial sound effects when listening to most sound formats. Graphics are processed by the 2.5MB NeoMagic adapter, which is capable of greater resolutions than the 800 x 600, 16.7 million colours that the 12.1in Active TFT maxes out at.

DC research shows that the most popular accessory is the modem, and Acer has included a 56Kbps internal modem in the price. Connectivity will never be an issue with the inclusion of USB, infrared, PC Card with CardBus and Zoomed Video, as well as the usual serial, parallel, PS2 and VGA ports. Software bundled on the 4.3GB hard drive includes Windows 98, PC-Doctor, PC-Cillin, and a Notebook Manager. The TravelMate 515T is a handsome system which has everything built into it for a very reasonable price and debuts in the No. 2 position in July.

Pros:	Built-in modem, autonomous CD
Cons:	12.1" screen limits resolution to 800 x 600, 4.3GB HDD comparatively small
Price:	$4295
Warranty:	1-year international RTB
Web:	www.acer.com.au

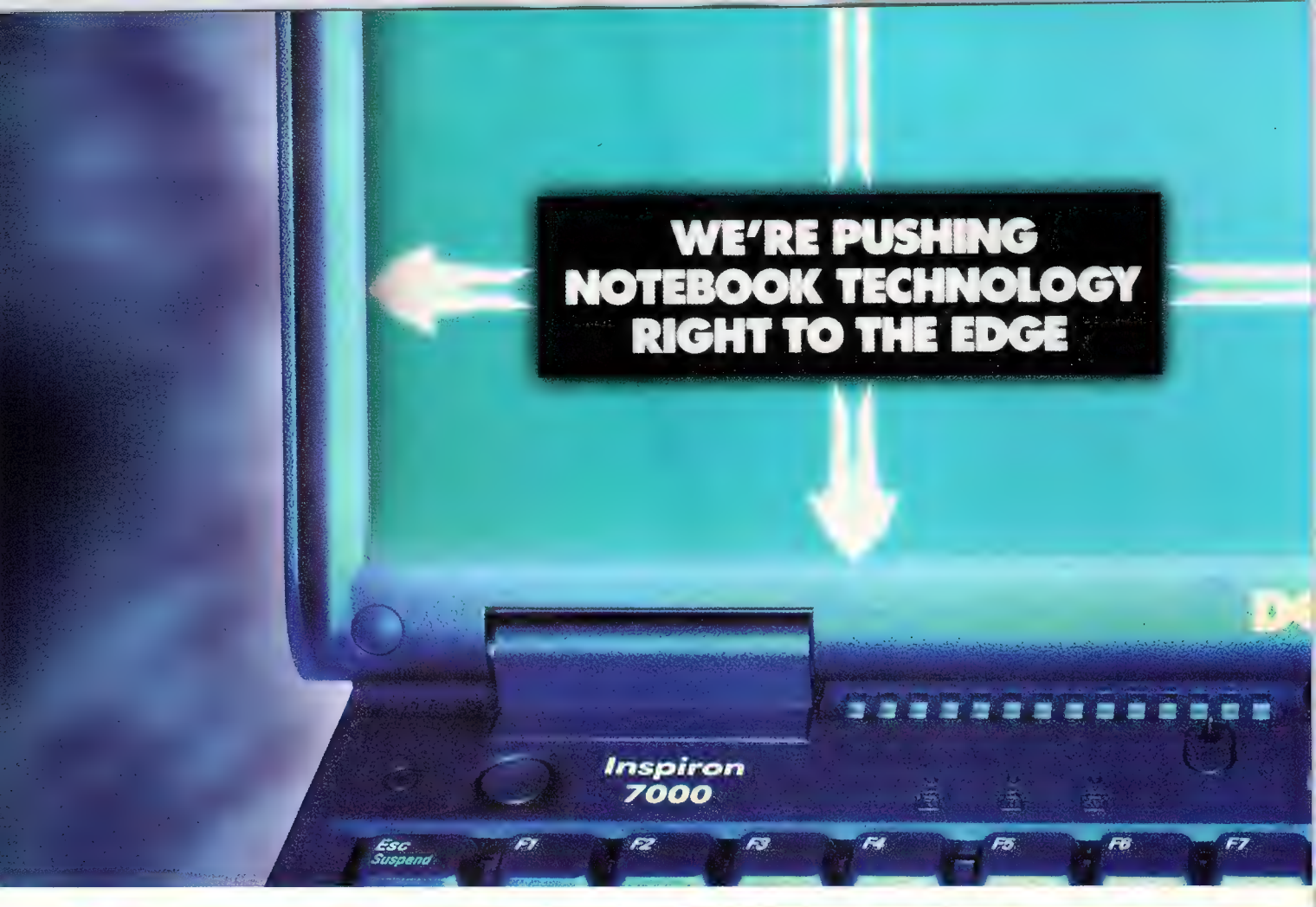
TOSHIBA TECRA 8000

The Tecra 8000 can be configured with a variety of processors ranging from the 333MHz Intel Celeron in our review system to a 333MHz and 366MHz Pentium II. Apart from the Celeron processor, our review machine was also configured with 64MB RAM and a 6GB hard disk drive. Performance results proved it to be faster than notebooks powered by Intel's Pentium II 300 and almost on a par with the Pentium II 366MHz systems. The 13.3in active TFT screen fits comfortably within the lines of the bezel and nicely complements the 2.5MB NeoMagic graphics adapter, which is capable of displaying 16 million colours at a resolution of 1024 x 768. The screen can be reasonably viewed from angles and is more than adequate for office applications and Web surfing.

The keyboard has full-sized letter keys that feel comfortable and respond well to the touch. The keyboard sits in the middle of the notebook, yet still allows a small workable palm rest which also accommodates the smooth and accurate Accupoint integrated pointing device, which translates to a joystick mouse located on the keyboard between the G & H keys.

Built-in multimedia includes a 24x CD-ROM drive located at the front of the notebook and backed up by a Yamaha sound card as well as stereo speakers built into the palm rest. Toshiba has always had the portable power beast tamed and this goes for the lithium ion battery in the Tecra 8000, which will recharge fully in 2.5 hours. A built-in modem, 3-year warranty, excellent performance and an asking price of $5510 see the Tecra 8000 debut in the No. 3 position of the Power category.

Pros:	Excellent performance, Video Out, built-in 56Kbps modem, 3-year warranty
Cons:	External floppy drive
Price:	$5510
Warranty:	3 years
Web:	www.toshiba.com.au



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- 3.5" 1.44MB Diskette Drive
- 8MB ATI® RAGE LT PRO 2X AGP Video Controller
- High-fidelity Audio SoundBlaster Compatible
- 4X Max[6] Variable DVD-ROM Drive and Internal Decoder Card
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- Microsoft® OEM Works Suite 99
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- 8MB ATI® RAGE LT PRO 2X AGP Video Controller
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- 14.1" XGA Colour TFT Display
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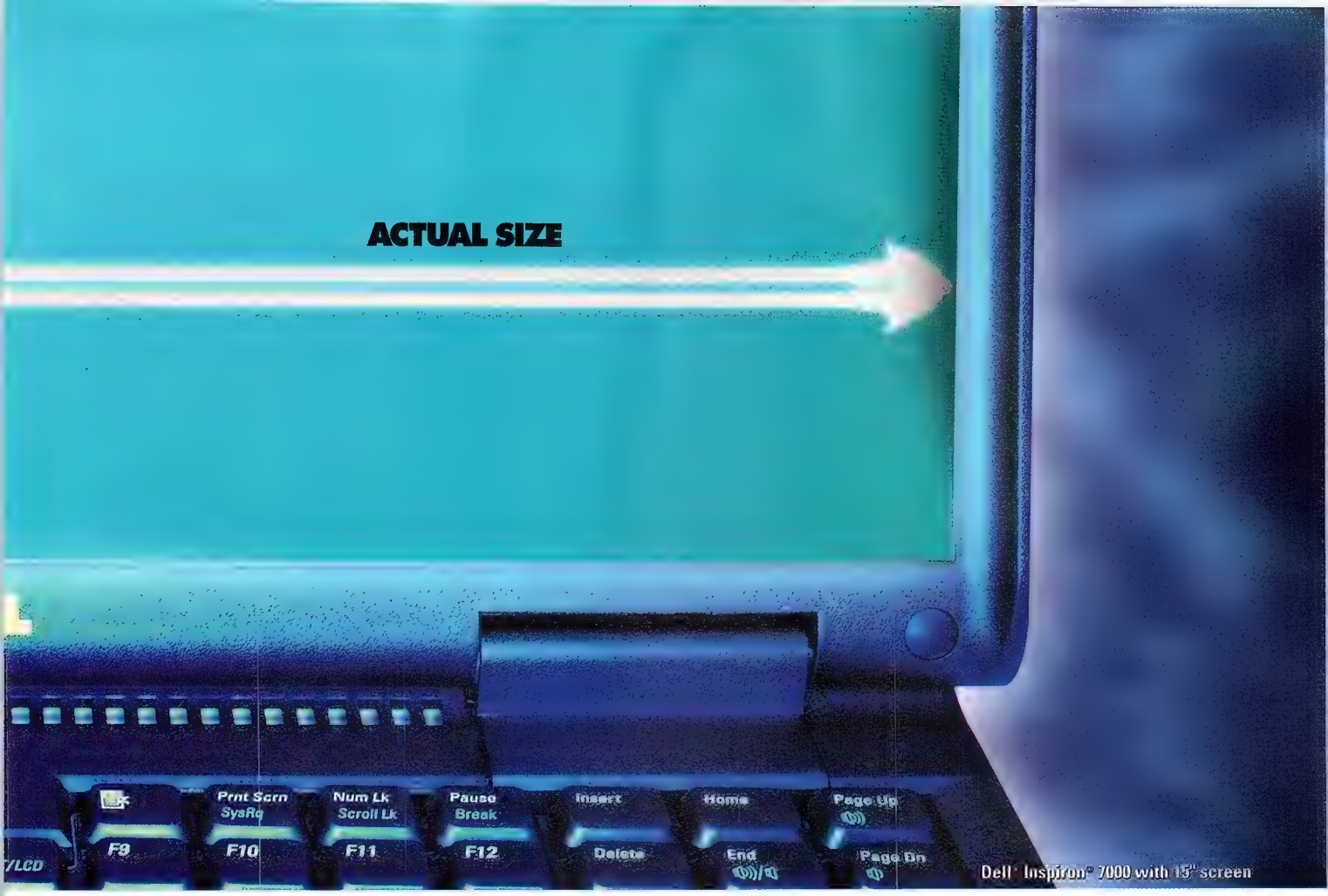

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- 8MB ATI® RAGE LT PRO 2X AGP Video Controller
- High-fidelity Audio SoundBlaster Compatible
- 24X Max[2] Variable CD-ROM Drive
- 14.1" XGA Colour TFT Display
- Microsoft® Windows® 98
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- 1 Year Limited Warranty
- Free Lifetime Telephone Technical Support

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NEW INTEL® CELERON™ PROCESSOR 366MHz

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- 32MB SDRAM
- 4.8GB[1] Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- 3.5" 1.44MB Diskette Drive
- 256-bit Graphics Accelerator
- High-fidelity Audio SoundBlaster Compatible
- 24X Max[2] Variable CD-ROM Drive
- 14.1" XGA Colour TFT Display
- Microsoft® Windows® 98
- Microsoft® OEM Works Suite 99
- 1 Year Limited Warranty
- Free Lifetime Telephone Technical Support

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cially close to and below the 2kg mark, the trade-off for lightweight portability is the need to attach components such as floppy or CD drives externally. Lightweight also means an attractive thin form factor, as in the IBM ThinkPad 570 which — together with the previously tested Toshiba Portege 7020CT — vies for executive attention.

> The notebook is well on the way to becoming more than a tool used by top-level executives and mobile warriors. It is getting smaller, faster and much more powerful and this [trend] will only increase. As processor speed is expected to hit 600MHz late this year, we are going to see a convergence of the gap between mobile PCs and desktops. The machines are becoming smaller in size and I would expect them to soon be released in more lifestyle-type designs and colours, such as the Toshiba Portege. Also, as smart handheld devices (SHDs) become increasingly powerful and more functional, we are going to see early adopters move towards them as opposed to the full-blown mobile PC. However, SHDs are not intended as replacements for the mobile PC which could cause some confusion initially within the end-user community.
> *- Logan Ringland — IDC Market Analyst on the future of the Notebook PC*

OFF WITH THE PIXELS

The active thin film transistor (TFT) liquid crystal display is sported by all of the notebooks that appear in our Best Buys. Sizes of the displays in this month's review range from 12.1in to 14.1in, although there are notebooks with 15in displays. These screens operate in conjunction with their graphics adapters to display different types of information.

All screens look quite good in their native resolution if you are sitting directly in front of them. 12in screens tend to have a native resolution of 800 x 600, while 13in, 14in and 15in screens have a native resolution of 1024 x 768. Not all screens are alike and although they can look great when viewed "head on", it becomes a different story when they are viewed from an angle. The mark of a good screen is vibrant colours, a lack of white dots (burnt out transistors) and the ability to be viewed from wide angles without losing picture quality. The 14.1in screen on the NEC Versa LX rated excellently in our evaluations and was this month's most outstanding TFT display.

As with desktop systems, graphics adapters play an active role in what programs can be used as well as directly impacting system performance. According to our tests, the most desirable graphics adapter for notebooks in terms of performance and versatility would have to be the 8MB ATI Rage LT Pro 2X AGP. This is the adapter used in the top-performing NEC Versa LX and the Dell Inspiron 7000 A366GT. Not only did it aid in the performance scores of these notebooks, but it also made them the only portables with anything resembling desktop 3D graphics performance.

Despite the fact that they are both business machines, they are the only notebooks in the chart that will allow decent gaming involving 3D graphics such as Toca 2.

DAVID TAKES AIM AT GOLIATH

Intel may dominate the mobile processor market for now, but rival vendor AMD plans to give the chip giant a run for its money. In late May AMD released its 380MHz K6-III-P mobile processor, the fastest x86 mobile PC processor on the market. Also available in 366MHz and 350MHz versions, the AMD K6-III-P processor is designed to compete with Intel's mobile Pentium III and mobile Pentium II Dixon chips.

The K6-III-P processor leverages AMD's TriLevel Cache design, sixth-generation micro-architecture, and a 100MHz frontside bus. By comparison, Intel's mobile PII Dixon chips feature a 66MHz frontside bus. AMD's K6-III-P also has double the L1 cache of Intel's fastest mobile Celeron and PII chips.

"With its bigger cache and higher clock speed, the mobile K6-III-P is extending the high performance, sub-$US2,000 notebook space," says Martin Reynolds, a mobile computing analyst with the market research firm Dataquest.

And the K6-III-P has the same footprint as the company's K6-2 mobile chip. "The mobile AMD K6-III-P is compatible with [our] existing Super7 platform infrastructure," says Martin Booth, product marketing manager for AMD's mobile processing division. Because AMD's new mobile chip is PIN-compatible with existing K6-2 notebooks, vendors won't have to invest in a new design, Booth says.

Introduced earlier this year with the mobile K6-2 chips, AMD's 3DNow technology also figures prominently in the mobile K6-III-P design. 3DNow enhances 3D graphics, soft DVD playback and speech recognition.

The mobile K6-III-P operates at a core voltage of 2.2 volts with an extended case temperature rating of 80 degrees Celsius compared to a 1.6 core voltage and 100 degree Celsius case temperature for Intel's latest 366MHz mobile Celeron. Intel uses Voltage Reduction technology to optimise performance at lower power levels.

"The only downside to AMD's new mobile chips is that the power meter is still a little high," says Reynolds. "They are not suitable for ultrathin and light mini notebooks.
- Christian McIntosh

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pc world BEST BUYS

Printers

Lexmark Optra S 1855 Pro

Observing the frenzy with which models and prices change in the Personal Printer Best Buys, as well as taking into consideration the other hardware categories that we examine, the network printer market seems to be the most stable when it comes to model life and pricing. Printers that have been appearing in the chart since January are still available in July and their recommended retail prices have remained rock solid. Only Hewlett-Packard is offering some comfort — the HP 8100N tested in January drops this month by $378 to $5999 and jumps one point to a value rating of 81. In general the upper end of the Best Buys chart is dominated by printers with very fast print engines and high-resolution capabilities as well as excellent paper handling and a myriad options. They are end user as well as network manager-friendly on account of their versatile interfaces, compatible management tools and comprehensive documentation.

This month we look at the 32ppm Xerox DocuPrint N32 and the Lexmark Optra S 1855 Pro. In addition, the Kyocera FS-3700 shows that being environmentally-friendly doesn't mean you need to trade off performance or quality. All three printers make a dent in the Best Buy chart resulting in the departure of the Brother HL-2060, Brother HL-1660E and Xerox DocuPrint C410 from their eighth, nineth and tenth positions in the May chart.

Having humbled the opposition previously with the DocuPrint N40, Xerox has submitted another fully featured A3 printer in the form of the DocuPrint N32, which sells for $2500 less than the DocuPrintN40. The N32 is a slightly toned down version of the 40ppm N40. The N32's 32ppm print engine is complemented by 24MB memory and a 600 x 600dpi resolution, highlighting patented Xerox Quad Dot halftoning. It provides great versatility in the paper handling department with two standard 500-sheet paper trays that handle A3, A4, A5, letter, legal, folio, ledger, executive, 8.5in x 5.5in paper and envelopes. Options include a duplex module, additional paper trays, a 100 envelope feeder, a 10-bin mailbox and a 3-bin 2000-sheet finisher/stapler.

IT staff will most likely be impressed by the Intel i960HD superscalar processor, an embedded Internet Server, Send Once, Rip Once, Collate and Print Many capability, RIP while printing to process multiple jobs con-

pc world BEST BUYS Printers

		Issue reviewed	Value rating	Price	Rated engine speed (ppm)	Standard RAM (MB)	Max Resolution (dpi)
1	Xerox DocuPrint N40	Mar 99	88	$8235	40	24	600
2	Xerox DocuPrint N32	Jul 99	87	$5795	32	24	600
3	Lexmark Optra Se 3455	Mar 99	85	$5776	34	16	1200
4	Canon LBP-2460	Mar 99	83	$5840	24	4	600
5	Lexmark Optra S 1855 Pro	Jul 99	81	$3135	18	8	1200
6	HP 8100N	Jan 99	81	$5999	32	16	1200
7	Tektronix Phaser 740	Mar 99	80	$4707	16 (mono) 5 (colour)	32	1200
8	Epson EPL-N1600	May 99	73	$2299	16	8	600
9	Kyocera FS-3700+	Jul 99	73	$2731	18	4	600
10	Kyocera FS-1700+	Jan 99	72	$1934	12	4	600

currently, memory management technology for PCL and PostScript as well as industry standard and Xerox extended MIBs. Throw in an on-site warranty and a huge 150,000 page per month duty cycle and the package combines to become a very attractive and versatile printer solution for even the most demanding networks. The asking price from Xerox is $5795 and it debuts in the No. 2 position.

The Optra S 1855 Pro is the network-ready version of the Optra S 1855. It is an 18ppm printer, shipping with 8MB RAM (expandable to 136MB) and boasting 1200 x 1200dpi resolution. Print performance, assisted by the 133MHz NEC 4300-133 processor, is quite good as is the monthly duty cycle of 65,000 pages per month. The 17,600-page duty cycle of the toner cartridge is sensibly balanced against the duty cycle of the printer so that you're not always changing cartridges if the printer is being used to its limit. The Optra S 1855 Pro is network-ready, shipping standard with an Ethernet 100BaseTX and 10BaseT internal print server. There are also options for token ring, Local Talk and 10BaseT/2. A host of network operating systems are supported including Windows NT Server Versions 3.1 to 4.0, Novell NetWare (including full NDS support), MAC OS, various IBM platforms (of course) as well as most platforms that support TCP/IP printing.

Versatility in the busy office environment is achieved via the numerous optional and standard paper handling options. In standard form the Optra S 1855 Pro can handle 350-sheet input via the 250-sheet integrated tray and the 100-sheet multipurpose feeder, which can handle stock ranging from 3in x 5in cards to B5 envelopes. Options include an 85-envelope snap-on feeder, up to three extra 650-sheet addressable and linkable output expanders, a duplex unit, and up to three additional input bins in the form of a 250-sheet drawer, a 500-sheet drawer and a 2000-sheet drawer. Lexmark also bundles the excellent MarkVision printer management utility which can integrate into a wide variety of network management applications from HP, IBM, Novell, Tivoli and CA. Priced at $3135 and in the face of strong competition, the Optra S 1855 Pro debuts in the July chart in the No. 5 position.

Priced at $2731, the Kyocera FS-3700+ is the only 18ppm printer on the charts for less than $3000. If your requirements are less than or equal to the 50,000-page duty cycle of this printer then it represents excellent value. In its basic 8MB configuration, performance is excellent for medium-sized files and on a par with printers costing twice as much. However, it would be advisable to upgrade the memory if you are chiefly printing out large graphic files like colour PDFs, as this is where performance degrades compared to other printers in the chart. As an Ecosys printer the Kyocera FS-3700+ is one of the most environmentally-friendly printers on the market. Kyocera has managed to keep down the cost per page by cleverly removing the need to replace parts such as the drum and other components many times over the life of the printer. The drum in the FS-3700+ is warranted for 300,000 pages or three years, which means you need only change toner when necessary, which in turn keeps the cost per page down around the one cent mark. The FS-3700+ does not ship with a network card as standard, but SNMP multi-protocol network interface cards are available as an option. Other options include a duplexing unit as well as 500-page paper stackers and feeders. The Kyocera FS-3700+ ships with a 12-month on-site warranty with the option to take a three-year Ecoshield warranty. This printer is excellent for small to medium volume networks that require a user- and environmentally-friendly printer with low running costs. As such it debuts at the No. 9 position in this month's chart.

Kyocera FS-3700

Warranty	Vendor	Phone
1 year on-site + optional 3 year on-site	Fuji Xerox www.fujixerox.com.au/printers	1800 655 070
1 year on-site + optional 3 year on-site	Fuji Xerox www.fujixerox.com.au/printers	1800 655 070
1 year on-site	Lexmark Asia Pacific www.lexmark.com	1300 362 192
3 years RTB	Canon Australia www.canon.com.au	(02) 9805 2600
1 year on-site	Lexmark Asia Pacific www.lexmark.com	1300 362192
1 year on-site	Hewlett-Packard www.hp.com.au	13 1347
1 year on-site + optional 3 year on-site	Tech Pacific www.tektronix.com	1800 811 177
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1 year on-site + optional 3 year ECOShield	Kyocera Electronics Australia www.kyocera.com.au	(02) 9888 9999
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pc world BEST BUYS

Scanners

This month we look at four more scanners covering the current range of direct connectivity options: USB, SCSI and parallel port. Three of the four can handle an optical resolution of 1200 x 600. All of the scanners are CCD units. Only one out of the four is configured to handle transparencies, but all four ship with bundled software. Three units are priced at under $300, the other at $1490. A one-year warranty is included with three of the scanners, while the remaining one has a two-year warranty, and it's not the $1490 machine! The USB and SCSI scanners are from Agfa in the forms of the DuoScan 1200T and the SnapScan 1212u. The two parallel scanners are from Artec and Relisys.

Teco Relisys has been making affordable scanners for a number of years and the Magic Star 600 is no exception. It is a 30-bit colour scanner boasting an optical resolution of 600 x 300dpi, which would make it ideal for scanning images for Web pages as well as images that you may use in a newsletter, a school project or small presentation. It connects to your PC by the parallel port, negating the need for an interface card. The Magic Star 600 will work on Windows 3.1x, 95, 98, NT or Mac OS 7.0 or later. It comes bundled with iPhoto Plus 4 (for image editing), TextBridge Classic OCR and a Direct Scan TWAIN driver. The TWAIN interface is very user friendly, but would not allow us to obtain a 1200dpi setting for Line Art. The advantages of this scanner are its very low price ($149) and the fact that no special interface card is required. On the downside there is no option for an automatic document feeder or transparency adapter, and default scans are quite poor. All this means is that you need to do a lot of tweaking before you get an acceptable image. Unfortunately this kept it out of the charts.

Agfa DuoScan T1200

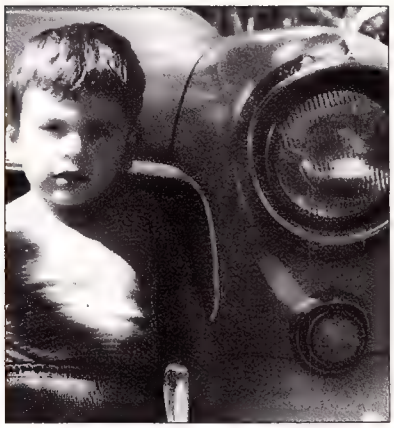
The Artec AM12E Plus is the parallel port representative of the AM12 family of scanners. It features an optical resolution of 600 x 1200 and is capable of 36-bit true colour. Scanning type is single pass with CCD and the scanner weighs in at 3.5kg. Bundled software

pc world BEST BUYS Scanners over $1000

		Issue reviewed	Value rating	Price	Max optical resolution	Interface	Automatic document feeder/Transparency Adapter	Warranty
1	Agfa DuoScan T1200	Jul 99	80.5	$1490	600 x 1200	SCSI	No/Yes	1 year
2	Agfa DuoScan	May 99	67.5	$4627	1000 x 2000	SCSI	No/Yes	1 year
3	Microtek ScanMaker 4	Jan 99	64	$1595	600 x 1200	SCSI	No/Yes	1 year
4	Microtek ScanMaker 5	Mar 99	60.5	$4999	1000 x 2000	SCSI	No/Yes	1 year
5	Umax PowerLook II	Jan 99	59	$2572	600 x 1200	SCSI	No/Yes	1 year

pc world BEST BUYS Scanners under $1000

1	Agfa SnapScan 1212u	Jul 99	74.5	$299	600 x 1200	USB	No/No	1 year
2	Epson GT-7000 USB	May 99	72	$429	600 x 1200	USB	Optional/Optional	1 year
3	Canon CanoScan FB620S	May 99	71	$449	600 x 600	SCSI	No/No	1 year with 3 year option
4	Canon CanoScan FB320P	Jan 99	70.5	$199	300 x 300	Parallel	No/No	1 year with 3 year option
5	HP Scanjet 5200C	May 99	70	$513	600 x 1200	Parallel/USB	Optional/Optional	1 year



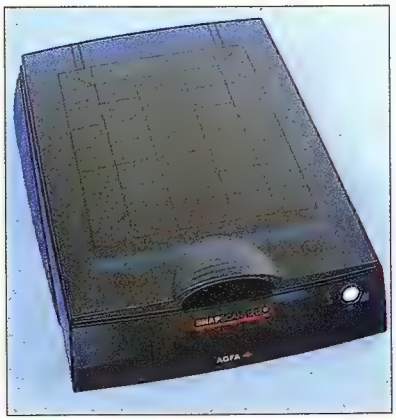
Agfa DuoScan T1200 — Colour output at 300dpi, Black & White output at 300dpi, Line-art output at 1200dpi

and manuals are on the CD and include the Ixla Photo Scanner Suite, Xerox TextBridge Classic OCR and MS Internet Explorer. Setup and ease of use are quite good and the quality of the scans is also quite acceptable. It distinguishes itself by being the only scanner tested this month with a two-year warranty. However, the AM12E Plus did not earn enough points to beat any of the existing machines on the charts out of a spot.

Vendor	Phone
Agfa www.agfahome.com	(02) 9391 6628
Agfa www.agfahome.com	(02) 9391 6628
Proscan Australia www.proscan.com.au	1800 654 930
Proscan Australia www.proscan.com.au	1800 654 930
Computer Enterprises www.cea.net.au	(02) 9807 5222
Agfa www.agfahome.com	(02) 9391 6628
Epson www.epson.com.au	(02) 9903 9000
Canon www.canon.com.au	(02) 9805 2000
Canon www.canon.com.au	(02) 9805 2000
HP www.hp.com.au	13 1347

Agfa seems to be able to do no wrong in our reviews after submitting the DuoScan T1200 and the SnapScan 1212u! The T1200 is the baby of the DuoScan family and at $1490 is also the least expensive. With an optical resolution of 600 x 1200, yet still featuring Agfa Twinplate technology found in the more expensive DuoScans, as well as an optional automatic document feeder, the T1200 has plenty of appeal. The TwinPlate technology provides two separate scanning beds for reflectives and transparencies to provide optimum scanning quality by ensuring better control over the optical path.

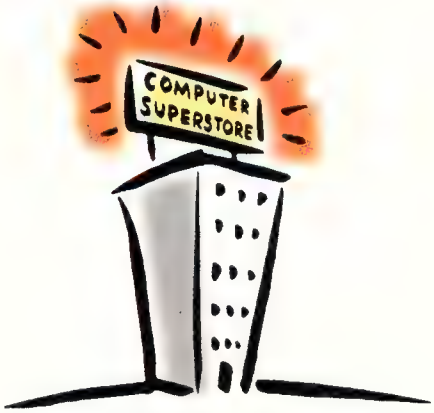
The T1200 is bundled with Caere OmniPage Lite and Photo Paint 8. More importantly, it is bundled with the Agfa FotoLook and Agfa ColorTune. These last two pieces of software are the result of Agfa's experience in the graphic arts industry, and combine to help produce the best possible representation of scanned images. ColorTune is a program which allows you to tweak your scanner, display and output devices to keep colour consistent among them. Although these pieces of software have enough diverse features and controls to satisfy professionals, they also boast many predefined settings to make the scanning experience a simple one — even for the novice. The T1200 has the performance and features to make it excellent value for money and as such it debuts at the top of the chart for Scanners over $1000.



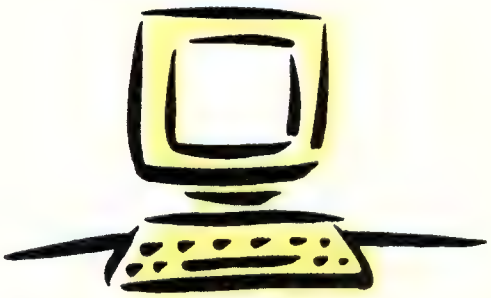
Agfa SnapScan 1212u

At the top of the Scanners under $1000 chart we find that the $299 Agfa SnapScan 1212u has usurped the No. 1 spot from the Epson GT-7000 USB. The SnapScan 1212u is also a USB scanner which makes it ideal for Apple machines and Windows 98 PCs. It boasts a 600 x 1200 resolution like the T1200 but is bundled with different software which includes Caere OmniPage Limited Edition OCR, Caere Pagekeeper, Corel Print House magic and Agfa ScanWise.

ScanWise is designed with the novice in mind and features integrated Agfa colour management as well as auto-processing, auto-dispatching, and an Auto-Genie which will enhance the colour balance and detail of your images. The default scans proved Agfa's claims to be true, and this combined with the asking price helped propel the translucent SnapScan 1212u to the No. 1 position in July.



Why pay for all this...



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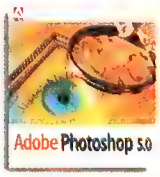

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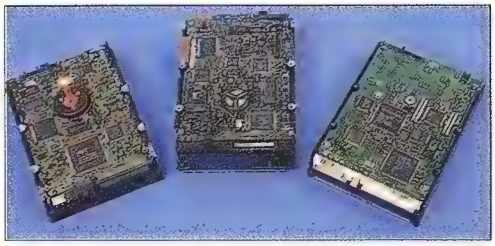
Hard Drives



This month we review three 18GB hard drives from Seagate, Fujitsu and Western Digital. Storage capacity is about the only thing they seem to have in common as all three are configured differently. Starting with the interfaces, the Western Digital and the Fujitsu MAG3182LP have the faster Ultra2 LVD interfaces as opposed to the Ultra interface on the Seagate Barracuda ST118273N. In the spin speed department, the Fujitsu's 10,000rpm outgunned the 7200rpm of the Western Digital and the Seagate. Buffer sizes also vary: 512K in the Seagate, jumping to 2MB in the Western Digital and then leaping to a huge 4MB in the Fujitsu.

Compared to the drives in the previous SCSI review in March, we see a marked increase in performance and significant price changes. With the exception of the Seagate Barracuda, the rest of the drives in this month's roundup can also handle the 80MB/sec transfer rate afforded to them by their Ultra2 connections. All of the above factors contribute to the substantial increases in performance since March — especially noticeable in the Fujitsu and the Western Digital drives.

To highlight the difference in performance, consider the specification changes that have arisen in the last four months. The 18GB Fujitsu MAA3182SP that appeared in March was restricted to 40MB/sec by its Ultra Wide interface instead of the 80MB/sec of the Ultra2 interface on the current model. It also sported a 512K buffer — one eighth of the 4MB buffer in this month's Fujitsu MAG3182LP, and spin speed improved to 10,000rpm, up from 7200rpm. Most notably, the Adaptec ThreadMark score for data transfer virtually doubled from 5.84MB/sec in March to 11.62MB/sec in this review. To top it off, the MAG3182LP is almost $500 cheaper today than the now defunct MAA3182SP was in March. In fact, price per gigabyte has dropped so significantly while performance has improved so considerably that the lowest value score of 74 in July's chart is 11 points higher than March's No. 1 score. The price per gigabyte in March ranged from $201 for the 4.55GB Seagate Barracuda to a considerably lower $100 per GB for the 18.2GB Quantum Atlas III. This month, prices range from $115 per gigabyte for the 18.3GB Western Digital to $85 per gigabyte for the 18.2GB Quantum Atlas III. Congratulations to both Fujitsu and Western Digital for the exceptional performance of their 18GB drives and for smashing the 100-point value barrier in our July review! pcw

pc world BEST BUYS Hard Drives

		Issue reviewed	Value rating	Price	Interface	Capacity (GB)	Form factor (in)	Spin speed (RPM)	Buffer size (MB)	Data transfer (MBps) ThreadMark Result	Distributor	Phone
1	Fujitsu MAG3182LP	Jul 99	107	$1982	Ultra2	18.2	3.5	10,000	4MB	11.62	Tech PacificSynnex www.fujitsu.co.jp	(02) 9381 6000 (03) 9540 0555
2	Western Digital	Jul 99	103	$2110	Ultra2	18.3	3.5	7,200	2MB	11.87	Westan www.wdc.com	(02) 9417 2133 (03) 9563 6775
3	Quantum Atlas III	Mar 99	81	$825	Ultra2	9.1	3.5	7,200	1MB	7.37	Electronic Resources Australia www.quantum.com	(02) 9736 3688
4	Seagate Barracuda ST118273N	Jul 99	80	$1727	Ultra Wide	18.2	3.5	7,200	512KB	7.55	Agate Technology www.seagate.com	(02) 9870 3600
5	Quantum Atlas III	Mar 99	74	$1560	Ultra2	18.2	3.5	7,200	1MB	6.35	Electronic Resources Australia www.quantum.com	(02) 9736 3688

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PENTIUM II 366,	$3550
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96M RAM, 6.4G, 8.4G HDD

Warranty
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PC: 2 Yr Parts, 5 Yr Labour, On site Optional

Pioneer 2000 VALUE PC

Celeron 366:	$1470
Celeron 400:	$1530
Celeron 433:	$1620

Supermicro SBA370 BX M/B
32 M PC100 RAM
4.3 GB HDD
Diamond A50 4M AGP VGA
Creative PCI 32 Sound Card
Macase ATX Midi Tower
120W SPEAKER
MITSUBISHI 1.44M FDD
MITSUBISHI 36X CD-ROM
MITSUBISHI 15" Monitor
MITSUBISHI K/B, Mouse, Win 98

Pioneer 2000 SOHO PC

PentiumII 350:	$1870
PentiumII 400:	$1930
Pentium II & III 450:	$2090

Supermicro SBA BX M/B
64 M PC100 RAM
6.4 GB HDD
Diamond V550 8M AGP VGA
Creative PCI 64 Sound Card
Macase ATX Midi Tower
480W SPEAKER
MITSUBISHI 1.44M FDD
MITSUBISHI 40X CD-ROM
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Pioneer 2000 POWER PC

PentiumIII 450:	$2790
PentiumIII 500:	$3270
PentiumIII 550:	$3830

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Help Screen

Windows Manager

WANT TO USE FAT32 UNDER NT 4?

By Brian Livingston

FAT32 is one of the nicer features of Windows 98 and Windows 95B (also known as OSR2). But Microsoft has never released Windows NT 4.0 support for FAT32, saying you should wait for NT 5.0 (now called Windows 2000).

For NT users who know where to look, however, a solution is at hand.

FAT32 (a file format with a 32-bit file allocation table) allows you to create drive letters (or disk partitions) larger than the old FAT16 limit of 2GB. FAT32 also saves disk space by using a more efficient cluster size than the FAT16 file format uses.

Depending on the files contained on your drive, converting from FAT16 to FAT32 usually frees up at least 20 per cent of hard disk space that was previously wasted. To find out how much disk space you would gain, run Microsoft's FAT32 Win utility. This program is located on the Windows 98 CD-ROM at D:\Tools\Reskit\Config (where D: is the letter of your CD-ROM drive).

Under Windows 98, FAT32 also enables faster loading of Microsoft Office applications (and some others). After converting a drive to FAT32, you run Win98's Disk Defragmenter. It writes the files of compliant applications back to your drive in the proper sequence to optimise their load times.

To run Win98's FAT32 Drive Converter, click *Start-Run*, and type **cvt1**. To see some caveats about the process, click *Details* in the Drive Converter program. For greater control over the process (such as the ability to reverse it), you should use PartitionMagic, a utility from PowerQuest (**www.powerquest.com**).

If you want the capability to dual-boot NT 4.0 and read FAT32 partitions, you need a little-known product from a company called Winternals Software. Winternals' FAT32 for NT 4.0 is a file system driver that gives NT the ability to read FAT32 partitions just as easily as it does FAT16 and native NT File System volumes. A version of the driver that allows read-only access to FAT32 drives is downloadable for free. A version that also allows writing to FAT32 drives costs $US39 per seat (with network licensing terms available).

Although numerous satisfied users report running FAT32 for NT successfully for months, it has escaped public notice to the extent that it's practically an NT secret. I scoured several search engines and found only a mention in a German-language magazine and a handful of Web sites.

You do need to respect a few minor limitations, though.

- Don't convert your NT 4.0 boot partition to FAT32, because NT won't be able to boot from it.
- To run FAT32 utilities such as Scandisk, you'll need to boot into Windows 98.
- Microsoft has no official position on the product, but Winternals' chief system architect, Mark Russinovich, notes, "We've had several orders from people at Microsoft."
- When you upgrade to Windows 2000, Russinovich says Microsoft's own driver will automatically take over FAT32 support. You can then uninstall Winternal's product.

Go to **www.sysinternals.com/fat32.htm** for the free version (also available on our cover CD) or **www.winternals.com/products/fat32.shtml** for the read-write version.

■ Brian Livingston's latest book is *Windows 98 Secrets* (IDG Books)

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If you have a hardware or configuration problem, please specify the equipment and operating system you are using, and include any other information you think may be relevant.

We regret that owing to the large number of queries we receive each month, we cannot guarantee that your question will be answered.

Windows

TROUBLESHOOT AND REPAIR YOUR REGISTRY

Every time you boot up your PC, you wait while it runs through its series of hardware self-checks and then initialises the software. Much of this process is visible on the screen. But deep in the background, your hardware and software consult the Windows Registry, the central repository of your PC's system settings and configurations. No on-screen messages alert you to that activity.

The process reveals itself only when serious problems arise, as when a device isn't recognised or Windows won't start. When you have device headaches, you can install a new driver or run the *Add New Hardware* applet in Control Panel. But if your system refuses to load the operating system, all you know is that Windows can't access the Registry or has insufficient memory to load it.

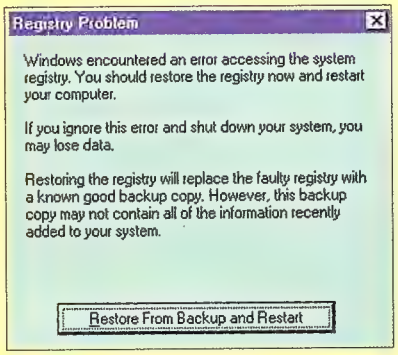
The message may include an option to restore the Registry from Windows' automatic backup (**user.da0** and **system.da0** in the Windows folder in Win 95, or certain **.cab** files in the Windows\Sysbckup folder in Win 98); but if those files are corrupted as well, you're in deep trouble. If this evil fate befalls you, here are some tips and repair plans for rescuing (or at least salvaging) the Registry using the good old DOS prompt. Even if you don't have a Registry problem right now, save this article — one day you'll thank me!

If you're using Windows 98, chances are Windows either will send you to the DOS prompt when you boot, or will display the boot menu so you can arrange to go there yourself. In Windows 95, you'll need to restart your system. When you see the *'Starting Windows 95'* message, press **<F8>** to display the Windows 95 *Startup* Menu; then press **7** and **<Enter>** to choose *Safe Mode Command Prompt*.

At this point, I recommend backing up your Registry files (corrupted or not) to ensure that your tinkering doesn't make matters any worse: go to your Windows directory (for example, type **cd \windows** and press **<Enter>** if that's the folder where Windows is installed). Since the Registry files are hidden, type **attrib -s -h -r *.da*** and press **<Enter>**. Then use the *Copy* command to copy the following Registry files to another folder: **system.dat**, **system.da0**, **user.dat**, and **user.da0**. (Windows 98 users won't see the files ending in **da0**.)

Be careful not to overwrite any previous backups in the process. For example, if you want your backups stored in the c:\temp folder (and you don't have any other Registry backups there), type **copy system.da* c:\temp** and press **<Enter>**; then type **copy user.da* c:\temp** and press **<Enter>**. You can always restore these files to the Windows folder if something goes awry. Do this no matter which of the following techniques you subsequently adopt.

Plan 1 (Win 98). Now you're ready to start your repair work. If you're using Windows 98, you have a tool at your disposal to simplify the chore. At the DOS prompt, type **scanreg** and press **<Enter>**. (Windows may already have told you to do this when you rebooted and found yourself at the boot menu.) ScanReg starts with a screen noting its function and containing two DOS-



A corrupted Registry isn't the end of the world if you have a Registry backup

like buttons, *Start* and *Cancel*. *Start* is highlighted by default; press <**Enter**> to start the process.

ScanReg restores the Registry from the last good backup — that is, the last copy of the Registry that Windows successfully started up with — and lets you restart your computer. When prompted, press <**Enter**> to restart your computer.

Plan 2 (Win 98). If that doesn't do the trick, or if you're concerned that your latest backup may also be corrupted, return to the DOS prompt and type **scanreg /restore**. This causes ScanReg to display a list of backup files, together with the date of each. Select the copy you prefer, and then, with *Restore* highlighted, press <**Enter**> to restore it.

Plan 3 (Win 98). On the other hand, if you just installed some software and suspect its settings might not be in the backup — or if you have no backup files — start ScanReg by typing **scanreg /fix** at the DOS prompt and pressing <**Enter**>. If you're lucky, ScanReg will be able to repair the Registry. If not, keep reading.

Plan 4 (Win 9x). If you're using Windows 95 — or if ScanReg doesn't do the trick in Windows 98 — it's time to get out that floppy and try restoring the Registry from a backup you made before the problems began. When you get to the DOS prompt, rename the **system.dat** (Win 95 and 98) and **system.da0** (Win 95 only) files by entering the command **ren system.dat system.dat.bak** followed by **ren system.da0 system.da0.bak**. Then copy these files to the Windows folder. If your backup files are in c:\backup, for example, type **copy c:\backup\system.dat c:\windows** (your actual path may differ) and press <**Enter**>. Restart your computer. If that doesn't work, do the same for the user backup files, **user.dat** and **user.da0**. Windows settings that have been changed — or programs that have been installed — after you made the backup may not work properly, and you may have to reinstall them.

Plan 5 (Win 9x). Still in trouble? The DOS version of the Registry Editor, **regedit.exe**, may be able to save your bacon, whether you're operating under Windows 95 or Windows 98. You can solve some Registry problems by exporting the Registry to a text file and then importing it back again.

To export the **user.dat** portion to text, type a line similar to the following at the DOS prompt: **regedit/l:c:\windows\user.dat/e c:\user.txt** (your paths and export file name may differ). Press <**Enter**>. The **/e** switch indicates export, and the **/l** switch specifies the particular portion of the Registry that you're working with (more on this point later). Now rename the existing **user.dat** file by typing **ren user.dat user.bak** and pressing <**Enter**>.

Finally, to re-create the **user.dat** file based on the text file you exported, type **regedit /l:c:\windows\user.dat /c c:\user.txt** (your paths and export file name may differ) and press <**Enter**>.

As I'll explain later, Windows 98 users (but no one else) should substitute **/r** for **/l** in this command line. In either version of Windows, you'll need to include the **/c** switch to re-create the Registry from the text file. Now restart Windows and hope that everything is cool.

If the error persists, try the same thing with the **system.dat** portion of the Registry. Reboot to the *Safe Mode Command Prompt*, as before. At the DOS prompt, type **regedit /l:c:\windows\system.dat /e c:\system.txt** (your paths and export file name may differ) and press <**Enter**>. Now rename the existing **system.dat** by typing **ren system.dat system.bak** and pressing <**Enter**>. Finally, to re-create the **system.dat** file based on the text file you exported, type **regedit /l:c:\windows\system.dat /c c:\system.txt** (again, your paths and export file name may differ) and press <**Enter**>.

Plan 6 (Win 9x). Extremely experienced users — and knowledgeable users who are sure about what's wrong with the Registry — may be able to edit the Registry itself from the DOS prompt. For example, if your system problems arose immediately after you made some Registry change in Windows, you can export the entire Registry to a single file (not just one part at a time, as described above) by typing **regedit /e registry.txt** (any file name will do) and pressing <**Enter**>. Then

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you can use **Edit.com** to open the text file you created (type **edit registry.txt** and press **<Enter>**) and make the necessary changes.

When you have finished editing this text file, save the file and exit **Edit.com**.

If you don't need to re-create your Registry files but merely want to merge the changed information, you can skip the **/c** switch and simply type **regedit registry.txt** and press **<Enter>**. Then restart the computer and cross your fingers. If this technique creates a text file that's too big for **Edit.com**, try the previously discussed techniques to establish a separate text file for each portion (user and system) of the Registry; edit the text file(s) and import each as described above.

These tricks are anything but foolproof. Large Registry entries can stymie the DOS version of the Registry Editor that comes with Windows 95. If that happens, you'll see an error message like *'Unable to open registry (14)'* when you try to import or export your Registry file. Another complication: if you type **regedit /?** at the DOS prompt, the help listing will tell you to use the **/l** switch for **system.dat** and the **/r** switch for **user.dat** in all cases. In my experience, however, you must use the **/l** switch (with the **/e** switch — as discussed in Plan 5) when exporting any Registry file if you want to produce a properly exported file. Using the **/l** switch (together with **/c**) is also the best choice for re-creating the **user.dat** file in Windows 95.

In Windows 98, on the other hand, you must use the **/r** switch (with the **/c** switch) to re-create the **user.dat** portion of the Registry. But doing this has its own difficulties: whether you use Windows 95 or 98, re-creating the **user.dat** with a command line like **regedit /r:c:\windows\user.dat /c c:\user.txt** restores **user.dat** but — catch-22 — corrupts **system.dat**! Consequently, if you find that you have to restore the Registry this way in Windows 98, you should first export **user.dat** and **system.dat**; then restore **user.dat**; and finally restore **system.dat** to correct any corruption that occurs during the rehabilitation process.

Plan 7 (Win 9x). If these or other problems foil your efforts to use regedit, you still have recourse to other, less desirable options. One technique is to restore **system.dat** by using **system.1st**, a backup that Windows creates during installation. At the DOS prompt, go to the root directory (type **cd** and press **<Enter>**). Type **attrib -s -h -r system.1st** and press **<Enter>**. Then copy this file back to the Windows directory as **system.dat**, by typing **copy system.1st c:\windows\system.dat** (remember, your path may differ).

Next, restart Windows. In this case, as with other backups, you may have to reinstall software and redo changes that were made after this backup was created.

- Scott Dunn

MAKE OUTLOOK 98 WORK ACROSS PARTITIONS

If you dual boot between Windows NT and Windows 9x, you'll probably want to install your favourite applications under each operating system. The basic steps are easy: install applications under one OS on a partition that both OSs can read, then boot the other OS and install the apps again to the same location. You might run into a snag, though, if you use Microsoft's Outlook 98 e-mail and personal information manager program.

Outlook 98's problem is that it assumes you'll use it from within only one OS. I'd already been using Outlook 98 for several months on the Windows 98 side of my Win 98/NT dual-boot system when I finally got around to installing it under NT. To my surprise, Outlook had no clue that I already had a bulging in-box elsewhere on the hard disk. No matter where I looked in Outlook's settings — even in the Windows NT Registry — I found nothing that would let me point the program to the **outlook.pst** file on my Win 98 partition.

So I tried using brute force to copy the file to Outlook's seemingly static location in Windows NT (\WINNT\Profiles\user\Application Data\Microsoft\Outlook\, where user is my log-on name). After hours of tweaking, I came up with a killer batch file that copied **outlook.pst** from the Windows 98 partition to

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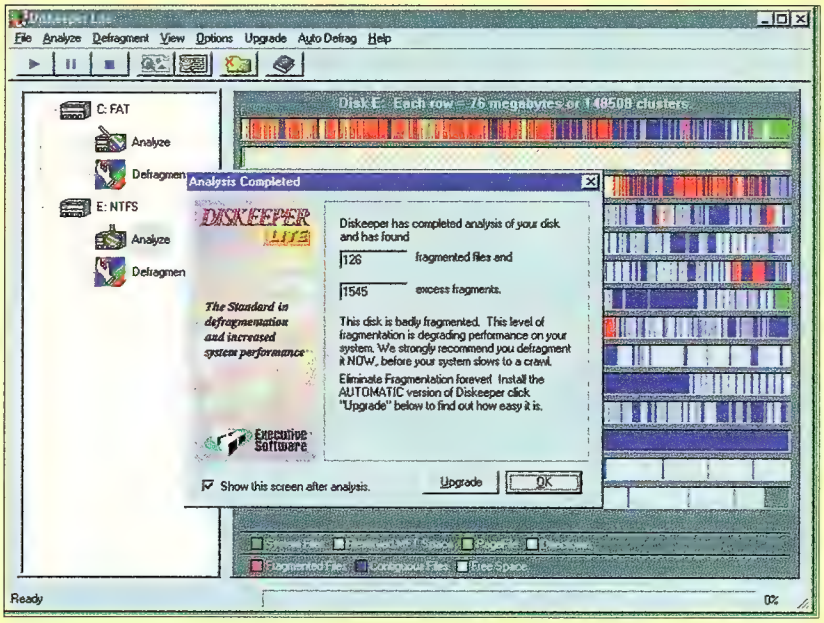
Windows NT's, launched Outlook, and then copied the file back again when I exited Outlook. Sadly, my 35MB **outlook.pst** file made the whole exercise cumbersome.

That's when I happened upon a simpler solution: if you delete **outlook.pst** from its default location (noted above), Outlook will ask you where to look for it. Navigate to the existing file's location (select *Start-Find-Files or Folders* to find it first), and then click *OK*. If you want to segregate data from applications (which is a smart idea), you can also use this trick to move your **outlook.pst** file to a separate data partition or folder.

If you've customised Outlook's *Shortcut* bar or created any mail rules, those settings are contained in two files that end with **.fav** and **.rwz**, respectively, in the directory that contains **outlook.pst**. The file-deletion trick doesn't work with these files, so you'll have to copy them from the Windows 9x location to the corresponding folder on the Windows NT partition. Lastly, if you have Outlook set to automatically archive old messages, they end up in the **archive.pst** file in the same folder. To ensure that all of your archived messages end up in one place, open Outlook under Win NT, select *File-Archive*, click *Browse*, and then navigate to **archive.pst** on the Win 9x partition and click *OK*. You may also have folder-level autoarchive settings. To point them to the correct **archive.pst** file, choose *Tools-Options-Other* and then click *AutoArchive*.
- Scott Spanbauer

NO DEFRAGGER? NO PROBLEM

Ever wondered where Windows NT's disk defragmentation utility is? It doesn't have one. Microsoft plans to include a stripped-down version of Executive Software's Diskeeper defrag tool in Windows 2000, the upcoming NT release. But you don't have to wait until then to get your NTFS partition sorted out. You can download the free 1.6MB Diskeeper Lite from this month's cover CD. After installing it, open Windows NT Explorer, right-click a drive, select *Properties-Tools*, and click *Defragment Now* to launch Diskeeper Lite. You must be logged on as an administrator to install or use the product.
- Scott Spanbauer



Give NT disk performance a boost with Executive Software's free Diskeeper Lite utility

SHARING APPS ON ONE PC

Q We have four people using one Windows 98 PC. How can we share one program without installing it four times, once for each user's environment?
- Andy Scott

A Usually, copying the Shortcuts from one PC's *Start* menu to another's will let both PCs use the same program.

To access an app installed by someone else, select *Start-Programs-Windows Explorer*, and go to C:\Windows\Profiles\firstuser\Start Menu, where firstuser is the user name of the person who installed the app first. Navigate through the subfolders until you find the Shortcut or folder you want. Drag the item to your *Start* button and hold it over the button until the *Start* menu pops up. Drop the item into the menu at the desired location.

If you're using Win 95 without Active Desktop, right-click *Start* and select *Explore* to go to your own Start Menu folder, probably C:\Windows\Profiles\yourname\Start Menu. Select *Start-Programs-Windows Explorer*, and navigate through the subfolders until you find the Shortcut or folder you want. Press <**Ctrl**> as you drag the item to the Explorer window displaying your own Start Menu folder.
- Lincoln Spector

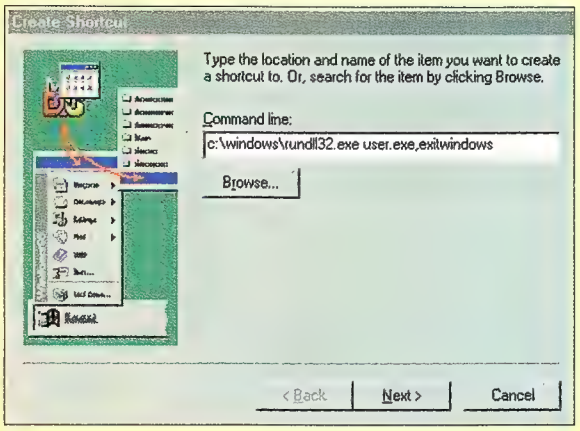
WHY CAN'T I EXPLORE FROM THE START BUTTON?

Q After my upgrade to Windows 98, right-clicking the *Start* button gives me greyed-out *Explore* and *Open* options, robbing me of the easiest and most convenient ways to edit the *Start* menu. How do I get them back?
- Sam Wood

SHORTCUT TO QUITTING WINDOWS

Want to create a shortcut that will shut down Windows without dragging you through menus and dialogue boxes? Right-click the desktop and select *New-Shortcut*. Enter **c:\windows\rundll32.exe user.exe,exitwindows** in the *'Command line'* field. Click *Next*. Enter **Exit Windows** as the shortcut's name, and then click *Finish*. If you would like this shortcut to show up as an item on your *Start* menu, drag it to your *Start* button, hover until the *Start* menu opens, and drop the shortcut where you want it to appear.

- Lincoln Spector



Use this Shortcut for a no-fuss Windows exit

A For reasons that may forever remain buried deep within Microsoft, Windows 98 turns off these options if you've used Tweak UI (a free Microsoft download) to hide drives from the *My Computer* window. Windows 95 does no such thing. Consequently, if you hide drives in Windows 95 and then upgrade to Windows 98, those options are suddenly gone.

The easiest way to fix the problem is to use Tweak UI to show the hidden drives. But use the version of Tweak UI in the \tools\reskit\powertoy folder of the Windows 98 CD-ROM. To install it, right-click **tweakui.inf** and select *Install*.

Once you've installed the program, select *Start-Settings-Control Panel* and double-click Tweak UI. Then click the *My Computer* tab. Scroll through the list of drives, checking any that are currently unchecked.

Don't worry — Windows will still display only the drives you actually have. When you're finished, click *Close* and reboot your computer.

- Lincoln Spector

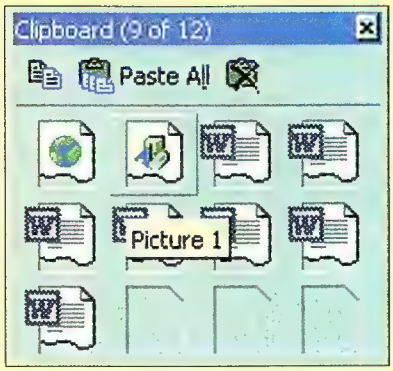
Applications

COPY AND PASTE MULTIPLE ITEMS IN WORD 2000

If you've upgraded to the new Office 2000, the previous tip is unnecessary. Microsoft has finally heard our pleas and offers its Collect and Paste feature to help users copy multiple items, text, or graphics to the Clipboard, and then paste them in a new document.

Here's how it works:

1. With the source document open, right-click any toolbar, then select *Clipboard* from the pop-up menu.



Office 2000's Clipboard gives you the ability to copy multiple items to other documents

2. Drag the new *Office Clipboard* toolbar to a convenient location.

3. Select the text or object you want to copy. Click the *Copy* icon on the floating *Clipboard* toolbar. Repeat this step for other objects you wish to duplicate.

4. Open or switch to the destination document and position the cursor where you want to paste.

5. To paste one item from the Clipboard, just click that item's icon on the Clipboard toolbar. (Hint: hover the mouse pointer over an icon to see the first few letters.)

6. To paste the entire Clipboard with all items in the same order you added to it, click the *Paste All* icon.

7. To clear the Clipboard of all entries, click the *Delete* icon.

- George Campbell

ADD SCREEN SHOTS TO WORD

Whether you're preparing training documents or just want to insert a picture of a Web site from your browser, capturing program screens and using them in Word documents is a lot easier than you might expect. The trick described below works in all versions of Windows and Word (from 6 through 2000). Note that it will make your Word documents significantly larger because of OLE, the technology Windows uses as "glue" to paste images from the clipboard to a document.

1. With Word running, switch to the application that is displaying the screen you want to capture. Press **<Alt>-<Tab>** to switch between running applications, or click their buttons on the taskbar if you're using Windows 9x.

2. To capture a full-screen image, press **<Print Screen>**. To capture just the current active window, press **<Alt>-<Print Screen>**. (If a dialogue box is currently active, this keystroke captures just the dialogue box.)

3. Switch back to Word, position the cursor where you want the image, then press **<Ctrl>-V** or select *Edit-Paste*.

4. Use Word's tools to resize or crop the image to suit your needs.

- George Campbell

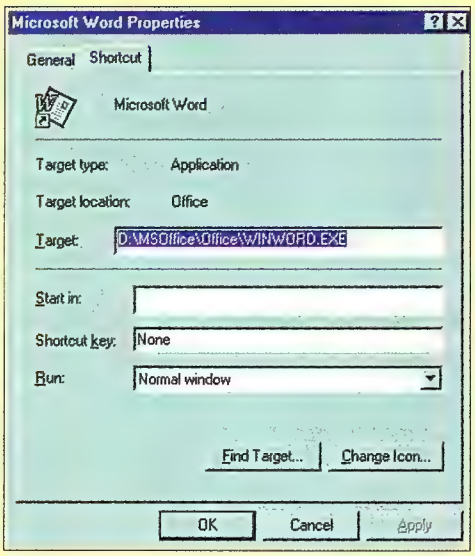
START-UP SWITCHES FOR WORD 6, 7, AND 97

You can begin working faster by customising the way Word starts up when you click a desktop Shortcut or select Word from the *Start* menu. Here's how to use start-up switches:

Right-click the desktop Shortcut you use to start Word, and click *Properties*. Or right-click the taskbar and select *Properties* from the pop-up menu. Click the *Start Menu Programs* tab, then click *Advanced*. Locate the Microsoft Word entry, then right-click it and click *Properties*. Click the *Shortcut* tab in the *Microsoft Word Properties* dialogue box.

Finally, using the table as your guide, type a switch after the existing entry in the *Target* field of the dialogue box. Be sure to type a space before the switch (that is, before the slash).

- George Campbell



Edit Word's command line in this dialogue box's *Target* field to alter its start-up

To start Word this way . . .	. . . add this switch
Start and prevent all add-ins and global templates from loading	/a
Start and prevent any AutoExec macros from running	/m
Run a particular macro at start-up	/m *macroname*
Start with no document loaded	/n

SHARE TEXT AMONG MULTIPLE DOCUMENTS

Copying parts of one document to another can be a pain in Word 6, 7, and 97. You have to select the text, copy it to the clipboard, switch document windows, paste the text from the clipboard, then switch document windows again, repeating the process until you're done.

A short macro can help automate the job. To use this macro, open only the source and the destination documents. Next, select the first block of text or the first object that you want to copy, and then run the macro to transfer the material. To specify where you want the copied material to go, click on the desired position in the destination document before making a selection in the source file.

Repeat the procedure as needed until all the copying is done. To speed things up further, add the macro to a toolbar.

Here's how to set up the MoveIt macro:

Word 97

1. With Word running, select *Tools-Macro-Macros*.

2. Type **MoveIt** in the *'Macro name'* field of the *Macros* dialogue box, then click *Create*.

3. In the macro editor, carefully type the macro text below, including the punctuation characters, between the Sub MoveIt and End Sub lines.

```
Selection.Copy
ActiveWindow.Next.Activate
Selection.Paste
Selection.TypeParagraph
ActiveWindow.Previous.Activate
```

4. Select *File-Save Normal*, and then select *File-Close and Return to Microsoft Word*.

Word 6 and 7

1. With Word running, select *Tools-Macro*.

2. Type **MoveIt** in the *Macro Name* field of the *Macro* dialogue box, and click *Create*.

3. Carefully type the macro text below, between the Sub Main and End Sub lines, into Word.

```
EditCopy
NextWindow
EditPaste
InsertPara
PrevWindow
```

4. Select *File-Close* and click *Yes* when you are prompted to save the changes in the macro.

Here's how to place the macro created above on a toolbar, in three popular versions of Word. (For copying multiple items in Word 2000, see the next tip.)

Word 97

1. Select *Tools-Customize*.

2. Click the *Commands* tab in the *Customize* dialogue box, then select *Macros* from the *Categories* list (you'll find it near the bottom of that list).

3. From the *Commands* list, click and drag *Normal.NewMacros.MoveIt*, and drop it in the desired spot on the toolbar.

4. To replace the text button with an icon, click *Modify Selection* in the *Customize* dialogue box, then select *Default Style* from the pop-up menu. Click *Modify Selection* again, then select *Change Button Image* and click the icon you want to assign to this macro. Click *Close* to finish the job.

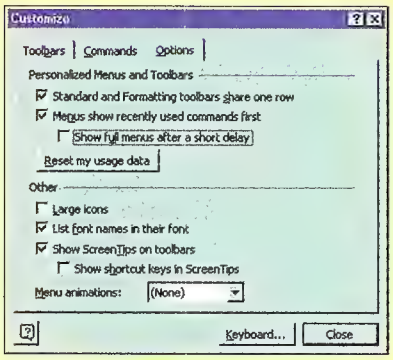
Word 6 and 7

1. Select *Tools-Customize.*
2. Click the *Toolbars* tab in the *Customize* dialogue box, then select *Macros* from the *Categories* list.
3. Click *MoveIt* in the *Macros* list, then drag and drop it on the desired toolbar. When you see the *Custom Button* dialogue box, select an icon for the button, or choose *Text Button.* Then click *Assign,* and finally select *Close.*

- George Campbell

CONTROL WORD 2000 MENUS

The new personalised menus in Word 2000 are pretty cool. They remember which commands you've used and show only those you use the most, plus the basic ones. Seldom-used commands are left unseen unless you click an expander at the bottom of each menu.



Disable the dynamic expansion of Word 2000's personalised menus

Unfortunately, if you open a menu by clicking its name, then take a few seconds to decide which command you want to use, Word suddenly displays all the menu commands.

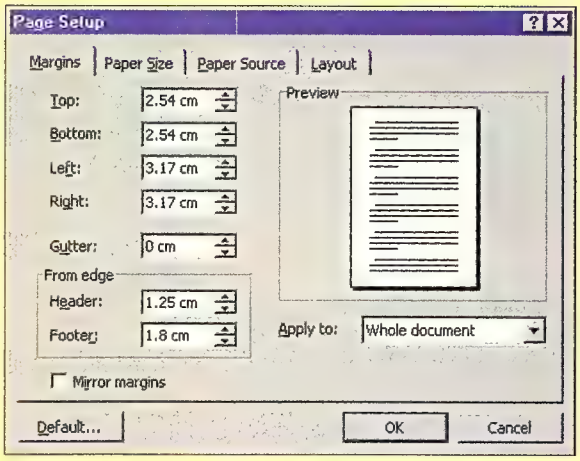
Here's how to turn off that automatic expansion:

1. Select *Tools-Customize.*
2. Click the *Options* tab in the *Customize* dialogue box.
3. Click *Show full menus after a short delay* to disable the option.
4. Click *Close,* and you're done.

- George Campbell

FIX CUT-OFF PAGE NUMBERS

With some popular inkjet printers, when you insert page numbers in a footer using Word's *Insert-Page Numbers* command, only part of the number prints. That's because the printer can print no closer than 1.68 cm (0.66 inches) from the bottom of the page, while Word prints footers at just 1.27 cm (0.5 inches) from the bottom by default.



Reset Header or Footer measurements to recover "invisible" page numbers

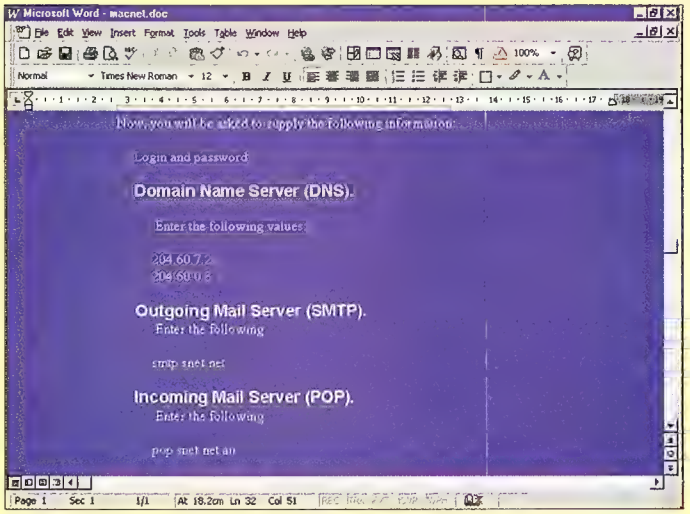
To change that default in all Word versions (from 6 to 2000), select *File-Page Setup.* In the *'From edge'* box of the *Page Setup* dialogue box, click the up arrow on the *Footer* measurement and change it to read 1.8 cm (0.7 inches). Click *Default,* then *Yes* in the confirmation dialogue box to apply the change to all Word documents.

- George Campbell

MAKE WORD EASIER ON THE EYES

Does Word's editing screen, with black text on a white background, give you eyestrain? Why not change it to a more relaxing blue background with white letters? This is an attractive setup for former users of WordPerfect 5.1 (many of us are still around) who miss their old word processor. Just select *Tools-Options,* then click the *General* tab in the *Options* dialogue box. Click *Blue background, white text* to turn on that feature, then click *OK.* This works in all versions of Word from Word 6.0 to Word 2000.

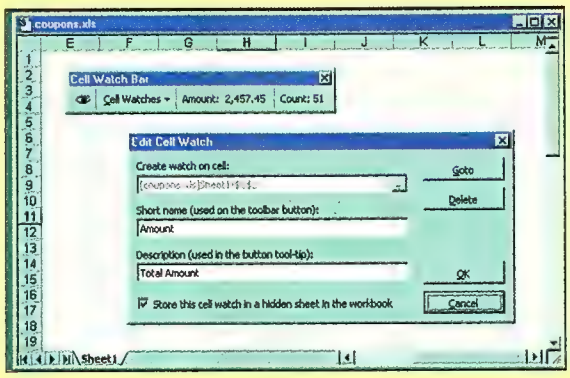
- George Campbell



If you're not happy with black text on a white background, try white on blue

EXTEND THE POWER OF EXCEL WITH ADD-INS

Excel's a great spreadsheet, but if it can't do what you want, then check out the world of add-ins. Here are some of the best Excel add-ins (including three by yours truly: Power Utility Pak, JWalk Enhanced Data Form, and Sound-Proof).



The Cell Watch add-in displays values from selected cells in a toolbar, visible from any worksheet

General-purpose utilities

• Edwin's Power Tools (shareware, $US40): features include 3D formatting and several text manipulation tools. Available for all versions, including Excel for Macintosh.

• Power Utility Pak (shareware, $US40): highlights include chart exporting and the ability to insert a file at the cursor position. Versions available for Excel 5 and later.

• Spinnaker Add-Ins (shareware, $US10 to $US20): several utilities, including tools to filter data and merge databases. Works with Excel 5 or later.

• The Spreadsheet Assistant (shareware, $US40): permits conditional selecting, range selection without screen scrolling, and mathematical operations on a range without formulas. Works with Excel 5 or later.

Improving Excel's features

• Analyse-It ($US125 to $US325; free demo): both general and clinical statistical tools.

• JWalk Enhanced Data Form (free; VBA source code, $US20): this alternative to Excel's Data Form (for Excel 97 or later) makes the task of entering data into a worksheet database simpler.

• Premium Solver (Frontline Systems, $US495): overcomes size limitations imposed by Excel's Solver feature and finds solutions to much larger problems 3 to 100 times faster than the standard Solver.

• XLStat 4.0 ($US75 to $US145; free demo): advanced statistical analysis tools (in English or French) for Excel 5 and later.

Business planning and analysis

• Adarus Business Plan ($US60; free demo): uses a series of wizards to help you prepare a professional business plan; creates financial reports covering cash flow, income, balance sheet, break-even, and financial ratios. Requires Excel 95 or later.

• Crystal Ball ($US495; free demo): uses Monte Carlo simulation (conducting multiple random trials) to help analyse risks and uncertainties associated with a financial model.

• Interval Solver and Interval Calculator ($US99; free evaluation version): two add-ins help you solve problems by using interval arithmetic.

Auditing and proofing

• Sound-Proof (shareware, $US20): a proofreading tool that uses a synthesised voice to read the values in selected cells. Requires Excel 97 or later.

• Spreadsheet Detective ($US48 to $US160; free evaluation version): comprehensive spreadsheet auditing and validation tools, including Y2K auditing.

Miscellaneous add-ins

• Cell Watch 97 (free): lets you continuously monitor values in multiple cells of various sheets located in different workbooks.

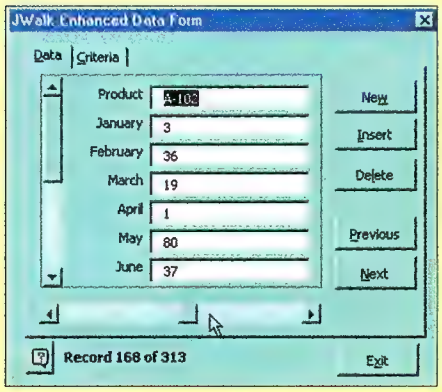
• Data Recovery ($US149; free demo): salvages all or part of the data in a corrupted workbook that can't be opened. But only cell data and formula results, not actual formulas, are recovered.

Getting the add-ins

The products here, except Premium Solver, are available for download from this month's cover CD. In some cases, the download is a demo version with a time limit or reduced functionality. Premium Solver can be downloaded from **www.frontsys.com/premsolv.htm.**

Many Excel-related Web sites offer tips, tutorials, macros, and files. My own Web site (**www.jwalk.com/ss/excel**) contains links to more than 100 other sites. Of course, Microsoft also provides lots of Excel information, available at **www.officeupdate.microsoft.com/excel.**

- John Walkenbach



The JWalk Enhanced Data Form improves on Excel's standard Data Form

Internet

TWO COMPUTERS, ONE MODEM, NO PROBLEM

Q I've networked two Windows PCs together. Can I access the Net with one using the other's modem? I'd like to dial up and connect from either PC, and even browse with both at the same time.
- Paul Wittke

A Several programs allow one system — the one with the modem — to work as a proxy Internet server for other PCs on the same network. My favourite, based on ease of setup and price, is PPP Shar. The Lite version gives the client PC (the one without the modem) Web access only; PPP Shar Pro allows the client access to mail, FTP (file transfer protocol), and even Internet-based games. Both products are shareware; a $US25 registration fee covers three clients in the Lite version and one in the Pro. Find both on this month's cover CD.

Both versions have software that is easy to install on the server PC (the one with the modem), and they include instructions for setting up apps on the client PC so that it can access the Internet.
- Lincoln Spector

GET OUTLOOK EXPRESS TO SEE A JOINT E-MAIL ACCOUNT

Q My wife and I have a joint e-mail account. Can we set up Outlook Express in each environment so that no matter which of us downloads the mail, we can both read it?
- Andy Scott

A It's easy to set up Outlook Express so that two people can share the same mailbox — provided that one of you has not yet launched the program in his or her environment. The first time you launch it, the app brings up a *Browse for Folder* dialogue box in which you tell it where to store your mail. Simply select *Windows\Profiles\otherperson\Application Data\Microsoft\Outlook Express*. Of course, when you set up your mail account, you must use the same information — e-mail address, ISP, and so on — as your partner.

If both of you have already run Outlook Express, you'll have to edit the Registry. Back up the Registry by copying your **user.dat** and **system.dat** files from C:\Windows to another folder. Then select *Start-Run*, enter **regedit**, and press **<Enter>**.

Once you're inside the Registry Editor, press **<F3>**, enter **yourname\Application Data\Microsoft\Outlook Express**, and press **<Enter>**. When the search finds that string, press **<Enter>** and change your name in the string to that of the person you're sharing the account with. After you close RegEdit and reboot, your version of Outlook Express will use your partner's mailbox.
- Lincoln Spector

Hardware

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR PC's MEMORY

Insufficient memory can slow down your system's overall performance, keep applications from running properly, or worse, cause your system to lock up, wiping out any unsaved work or data.

The obvious way to avoid memory problems is to install more RAM (especially if you're running Windows 9x on 16MB RAM or less). But before you do that, make the most of your computer's existing memory. Don't worry, it's not as geeky as it sounds: Windows 9x provides several tools to help you track down and fix memory-related problems, and to optimise your current memory settings for maximum performance.

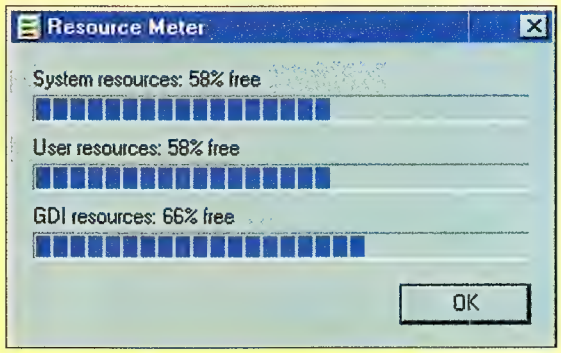
Get your meter running

If you suspect that your computing tasks overwork your PC's memory capacity, play it safe by keeping a watchful eye on Windows' levels of available resources with the System Resource Meter utility. You'll find it under *Start-Programs-Accessories-System Tools-Resource Meter*. If you don't see it there, install it from your Windows CD-ROM via *Add/Remove Programs* in Control Panel. Highlight *System Tools*, click the *Details* button, and select the box next to *System Resource Meter*.

You can see the percentage of free resources you have in your system by placing the mouse pointer over the Resource Meter icon in the System Tray or by double-clicking the icon to bring up the Resource Meter dialogue box. If either *'User resources'* or *'GDI resources'* drops below 25 per cent, you should consider closing unnecessary applications and windows. If any resource drops below 10 per cent, a warning will appear on your screen. At this point, you're flirting with danger; save your work immediately and close running programs, one by one, to free up memory.

Keep your eye on the monitor

System Monitor is another powerful diagnostic utility included with Windows that allows you to monitor a slew of performance statistics for



Keep an eye on your system resources with Resource Meter

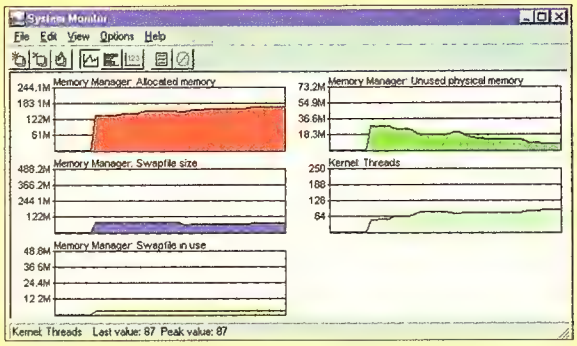
your computer. Like the Resource Meter tool, it's either listed on your *System Tools* menu or can be installed from the Windows CD-ROM.

Select the statistics you want to display from the System Monitor's *Edit-Add Item* menu. As you open more applications and documents, these statistics will help you figure out how quickly your installed physical RAM fills up, when your swap file starts to reach capacity, and which programs hog the most memory.

For a precise measure of how much RAM a given program requires, add up the numbers for *'Other memory'* and *'Swappable memory'* and then subtract the amount for *'Disk cache'*. Do the calculation while the program is running, and again when it's not running; the difference between the two totals is the amount of RAM used by that program.

Another problem users occasionally encounter is memory "leakage". Some applications refuse to release memory they use for specific tasks (or "threads") even after the jobs have been completed. A corrupt program may keep generating new threads, eating up all your available memory. To figure out whether your machine suffers from a memory leak, keep an eye on the *Kernel: Threads* statistic in System Monitor. Continually increasing numbers of threads — especially when your computing activity is at a minimum — indicate a leak. In most cases, closing and restarting the application releases the trapped memory. If it doesn't, you'll need to close everything and reboot.

- Kirk Steers



Windows' System Monitor has the tools to show you the amount of memory your system uses for various purposes

Y2K OR NOT Y2K?

Q About six months ago I purchased a Compaq Presario 5630. The salesman assured me that it was Y2K compliant, but I decided to test it myself. First I ran NSTL's YMark2000, and the PC passed with flying colours. Then I tried Safetynet's Yes2K, and my Compaq failed the CMOS test. Is my system Y2K compliant?

- Kelly Chasney

A Two pieces of PC hardware deal with time and date: BIOS code and the CMOS clock/calendar. The CMOS chip's battery lets it track the time and date even when your system is turned off. When you boot your PC, the BIOS chip's start-up routines make the time and date stored in the CMOS chip available to your software.

Few CMOS chips are smart enough to roll over into the next century on their own. That's why your PC failed Yes2K's CMOS test. But a Y2K-ready BIOS will treat a CMOS date in 1900 as an error and correct it. So the CMOS test is relevant only if you have software that reads the date directly from the CMOS chip.

Luckily, very few programs read the date directly from the CMOS. One of the handful of exceptions is Safetynet's StopLight, and even it consults the BIOS if the CMOS date looks suspect. I have yet to hear of a Windows business application that draws the wrong century from the CMOS when the BIOS presents it with the right one.

So even if your new Presario can't pass every test you give it, it has passed the ones that count. Nonetheless, getting PC hardware to function properly is the easy part of the year 2000 problem. The hard part is dealing with badly entered and transferred data, and handling small-market and custom-built programs.

- Lincoln Spector

Find useful statistics in system monitor

STATISTIC	DESCRIPTION
Allocated memory	Total memory allotted for your system (both physical and virtual).
Disk cache	Total amount of RAM used to cache hard-disk data for faster access.
Swap file size	Current size of the Windows swap file (virtual memory). The swap file stores data overflow when physical RAM is full. Because accessing data stored on the hard disk is much slower than accessing data in physical RAM, heavy swap file use can impair system performance.
Swap file in use	Total amount of memory actually stored in the swap file.
Swappable memory	Total memory that can be swapped to disk.
Unused physical memory (called free memory in Windows 95)	Total amount of fast RAM installed in your PC.
Other memory	"Unswappable" memory, or data that must stay in RAM, such as key Windows files and disk cache.

System Monitor tracks the various ways in which your PC's memory is allotted. You can access any or all of these statistics from System Monitor's *Edit* menu

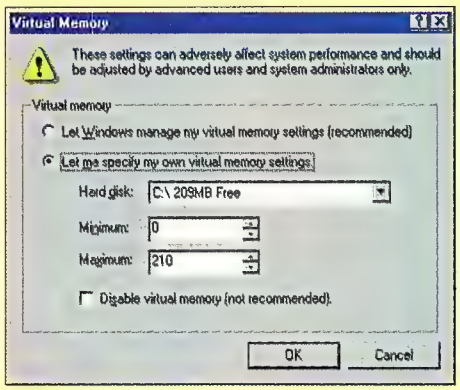
SOUP UP YOUR SWAP FILE

When your PC needs to access more data than its installed RAM can store, Windows places the overflow in a large file on the hard disk known as the swap file (often called virtual memory). Since accessing data on the disk is much slower than accessing RAM, you must optimise your swap file's settings. To get to those settings, right-click the *My Computer* icon on your desktop, select *Properties*, and click the *Virtual Memory* button under the *Performance* tab. Once there, do the following:

Check the size of the swap file. By default, Windows enlarges and shrinks the file according to its needs. If hard disk space is limited, the swap file can't expand to meet its needs, so you'll have to free up space on your disk.

You can manually set the minimum and maximum file sizes by selecting the *Let me specify my own virtual memory settings* button in the *Virtual Memory* dialogue box. Entering the same number for *Minimum* and *Maximum* will fix the file's size. This may improve system performance because Windows no longer has to adjust the file size. However, you risk a memory shortage if the file size isn't large enough.

Use the fastest hard disk. If you have more than one hard disk, place the swap file on the disk with the fastest access times. To do this, just change the setting in the *'Hard disk'* field in the *Virtual Memory* dialogue box and reboot the system.



For best performance you may need to adjust your swap file settings

Defragment the hard disk. Unlike Windows 3.x, Windows 9x allows the swap file to become fragmented on the disk — that is, not stored in a single, contiguous block. In systems that make heavy use of virtual memory, this fragmentation can take a steep toll on performance.

The easiest way to defragment the swap file is to use Norton Utilities' Speed Disk utility. You can also try Windows 98's Disk Defragmenter utility (under the *System Tools* menu). But since Disk Defragmenter treats the swap file as immovable, you'll first have to move the swap file to a second disk or partition — using the swap file *Hard disk* setting — then defragment the disk, and finally move the file back. If you have just one disk, check *Disable virtual memory*, reboot, defrag the disk, enable virtual memory, and reboot again. But beware: if your system doesn't have enough RAM to run without virtual memory, it may not boot.

- Kirk Steers

FOR THE LOVE OF UART

Q I go into *Modems-properties-diagnostics-more info* but I cannot find a UART chip number for love or money. Is there some other place it could be hiding?

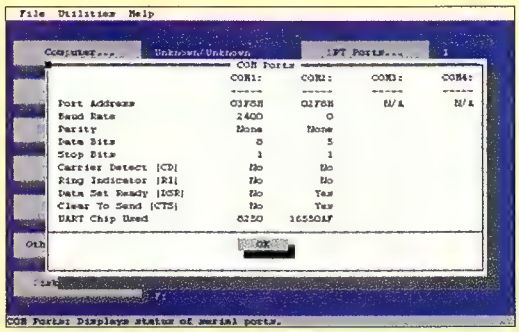
- Patrick Bercene

A Your modem's properties settings seems like a logical place to look for the UART chip number, but regardless of how hard you look, you won't find it there. The UART chip controls the RS-232 serial port in your PC, so you are more likely to find the chip number by examining the properties of your serial ports. You can easily do this using the Microsoft Diagnostics (**msd.exe**) program that comes with DOS 6.x and Windows 95. If MSD is not already installed on your hard disk, you can find on the Windows 95 CD.

Msd.exe generates more accurate results when it is run from the DOS prompt, so restart your computer in MS-DOS mode, and type **msd** at the DOS prompt. Click *OK* to close the opening screen, and then click on the *COM Ports* box. The window that opens next contains a field called *UART Chip Used*, which displays the number of the chip controlling each of your serial ports.

The 16550A UART chip is generally used in most high-performance serial ports because it uses a 16-byte buffer called a FIFO (First In/First Out) buffer to speed up communications. In Windows 95 you can tell if you have a 16550A chip by right-clicking on *My Computer*, selecting *Properties-Device Manager-Ports*, and double-clicking on the communications port you want to check. Then select the *Port Settings* tab, and click on the *Advanced* button. If you have a 16550 UART chip, the box next to *Use FIFO buffers* will be checked.

- Belinda Taylor



REPAIR YOUR CD-ROMS

A smudge or scratch on a CD-ROM can obscure key bits, making the disc useless. But before you throw it away, try cleaning it with a soft cloth and mild, soapy water. Wipe gently from the centre of the CD outward — never in a circular motion. Repair kits, available from larger computer stores, may also help.

- Kirk Steers

WINDOWS' ILLOGICAL LETTERS

Q I've just added a new 12GB EIDE hard drive with two partitions, C: for Windows and E: for applications. My old 1GB EIDE drive is now D: and my CD-ROM drive is now designated as the F: drive. Is there any way I can return the CD-ROM drive to its old designation of D:?
- Cal Jumby

A Unfortunately, no. Windows assigns drive letters as follows: drives controlled at the BIOS level, including most EIDE hard drives, come first. C: is assigned to the primary partition on the primary master EIDE drive — usually the drive and partition with Windows. Subsequent letters are then assigned to the primary partition of every other BIOS-controlled drive in the system. In this case, that's your old drive. Once all the primary partitions are assigned, the remaining partitions receive their drive letters. And finally, Windows assigns a letter to each software-controlled device, such as a CD-ROM or Zip drive.
- Kirk Steers

Linux

BASIC LINUX COMMANDS

The comand line is often cited in the press as one of the biggest drawbacks to Unix operating systems, including Linux. This is rather unfortunate since the command line is one of Linux's most powerful and compelling tools. There are very few tasks that can't be accomplished — often significantly faster than by using their GUI (graphical user interface) counterparts — by using the command line.

The command line takes some time to learn, and even longer to master. However, like other aspects of Linux, the return from the time invested in learning is substantial. In this article we will only scratch the surface, but we'll return next month to cover the command line in a little more detail.

The first commands to learn are the basic navigation commands. When you first log on to a Linux box, you start in your home directory. The home directory is a place for you to store all of your personal files. You can move out of this directory by using the cd (change directory) command. Try typing **cd /usr** to move to the /usr directory. If you would like to list the files in this directory, type the **ls** command. You can always return to your home directory using the cd command with no directory specified. Try it now: type **cd**, and then type **ls**.

Next, let's look at how to copy a file. First we'll create a file called **test** using the following command: **touch 'test'** (don't worry about the **touch** command for now). You can create a new copy of this file by typing:

cp test test2

The cp command copies a file to a new file. In this case, we copied the test file and named the new copy **test2**. If you want to see the newly created file, list the contents of the directory again using the ls command.

Sometimes you will want to move a file completely instead of making a new copy. In this case, you will need to use the mv command. Try typing **mv test2 test3**. Now you should see that the file **test2** has been replaced by **test3** (or in this case renamed to test3). For a file to be properly moved, you will need to move it to another directory.

To create a directory in Linux, type **mkdir** followed by the directory name. For example, try the following command:

mkdir testdir

Enter **ls** and you should see that the 'testdir' directory has been created. Now move the **test3** file into that directory by typing:

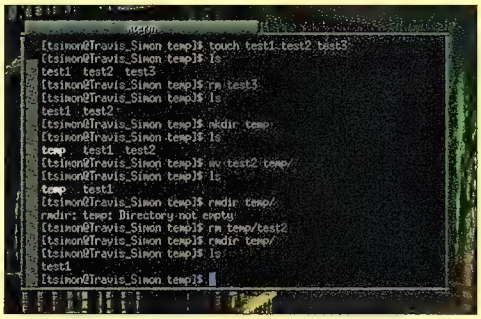
mv test3 newdir/test3

Use the cd and ls commands that you learnt earlier to verify that the file is in the newly created directory.

The next crucial commands to learn are the rm and rmdir commands, which remove files and directories respectively. However, before you can remove a directory, you must first remove all of the files in the directory. To try this out, return to your home directory by typing **cd**. Next, remove the **test3** file from the testdir directory by typing **rm testdir/test3**. Notice how Linux did not prompt you asking you if you were sure you wanted to remove the file. If you tell Linux to delete a file, it does it ... no questions asked! Next, remove the testdir by typing **rmdir testdir**.

Another trick with moving and copying files is that you can copy and move multiple files to a new directory by including only the name of the destination directory. For example, recreate the testdir by typing **mkdir testdir**. Next, create two more files by typing **touch test2 test3**. Now we can move those two files to the new directory by typing **mv test2 test3 testdir/**. The only rule with moving multiple files is that the last argument must be the name of a valid directory. The same trick works with copying files: try typing **cp test1 testdir/**.

We've moved fairly quickly due to the small amount of space available, so take some time to play with the commands mentioned and try to get more comfortable with the concepts presented. Next month we'll look at some more advanced command line uses.
- Travis Simon



The Linux command line is a powerful tool, but it's not easy to master

Newbie

BUILD A WEB SITE

Q I am new to the Internet and would like to create a Web site as I wish to operate a secretarial service from home. How do I do this? Thanks.
- Kelly Winkler

A Creating a Web site is not as difficult as you might think. A Web page is no more than an ordinary text file that contains special HTML codes or tags. Web browsers use the HTML tags to format the Web page and provide facilities such as hyperlinks to other pages. Assuming you've already got a computer and a modem, the only other things you really need to write your first Web page are: a Web browser, a text editor such as Windows Notepad, an Internet connection, and a good guide to HTML. There are plenty of excellent books and Web sites that will teach you HTML, but you can also learn many techniques by studying the source code of a Web page. In Internet Explorer you can do this by selecting *View-Source*; in Navigator, choose *View-Page Source*.

If the thought of learning HTML is too daunting, you may consider using a WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) editor, such as Adobe PageMill, Claris HomePage, Microsoft FrontPage, or Sausage Software's HotDog. WYSIWYG editors will automatically generate the HTML code for you, letting you concentrate on the more important aspects of your page, such as design and content.

It probably won't be long before you want to create your own graphics for your site. Any program that will let you edit and save images as .gif or .jpg files (the default graphics formats for Web pages) is perfect. The shareware program, PaintShop Pro (you will find an evaluation version on our cover CD), is a popular choice for creating and editing graphics, but there are numerous others to choose from.

Once you've created your pages, you'll need to transfer them to a Web server — a powerful computer that has a high-speed connection to the Internet and runs software designed to send out HTML pages and other files. Your ISP may provide storage space for Web pages, but there are also Web sites such as GeoCities (**www.geocities.com**) which will store your page for free, as long as you agree to a certain amount of advertising on your page. The most common method of uploading files to a Web server is via FTP (File Transfer Protocol). Shareware programs such as WS-FTP and CuteFTP (see our cover CD) will do the job nicely. Your ISP should be able to give you instructions on how to configure the FTP program to transfer your files to the Web server.

Since a Web page is an excellent advertisement for your business, the next thing you'll need to do is to promote your site. The most common way to do this is to submit your site to as many search engines as you can. Most search engines have a 'Submit URL' or 'Submit Page' section that will lead you through the process. Another strategy for publicising your site is to provide reciprocal links with other sites that share the same focus as yours. Many people will happily link to your site if you agree to provide a link to theirs somewhere on your site.

Once you've done all that, your Web site should be humming along nicely. So take a break, give yourself a pat on the back, and grab a cup of coffee — you've earned it.
- Belinda Taylor

RANDOMISE WINDOWS' STARTUP SOUND

Q Is there a program that will play a different sound each time you load Windows?
- Robert Hilan

A Although Windows lets you assign sounds to various program events, such as closing a program, exiting or starting Windows, and emptying the Recycle Bin, it does not give you the option to play a random sound for each of those events.

However, there are several shareware programs that will let you overcome this shortcoming. For complete control over your PC's sounds, check out Sound Shuffler (**ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/mboyers/sndshf.htm**), Random Event Sounds (**www.ztecsoftware.com/random/**) or Soundscape (**www.geocities.com/CollegePark/2231/soundscape.html**). All these programs are included on this month's CD1.
- Belinda Taylor

Bugs and fixes

IE 5 BUG-FREE? DON'T BELIEVE IT

It was only a matter of time — one week, to be precise — before a bug turned up in Microsoft's latest browser. Just seven days after Microsoft released Internet Explorer 5, security researcher Juan Carlos Cuartango announced that the browser has a serious security flaw that could allow Web sites to read the contents of your clipboard while you're interacting with Web pages. Meanwhile, bug sleuth George Guninski discovered three other flaws that could allow Web hackers to access files on your system.

When these vulnerabilities were first reported, a Microsoft employee posting to a Windows NT security mailing list confirmed their existence and said fixes were on the way. Microsoft has acknowledged these issues and advises security-conscious users to change default security configurations to eliminate the weakness. As with most browser security flaws, no attacks exploiting these are known to have occurred. Nevertheless, Microsoft says it is working on an update to prevent Web servers from accessing client clipboard and file data. But now that the cat's out of the bag, you should take steps to protect your system.

To close the security holes in your copy of IE 5, choose *Tools-Internet*

Options-Security, click the *Custom Level* button, and scroll down to *Active scripting* and *Allow paste operations via script settings*. Set both to *Disable*, and then click *OK* to finish.

You may encounter yet another problem if you send or receive messages that are digitally signed or encrypted using IE 5's version of the Outlook Express mail and news reader.

Before accepting messages, Outlook Express consults a third-party certificate authority to confirm that the digital certificate used in signing and encrypting is still valid. The lists of revoked certificates that these authorities maintain can be as large as 500KB, so the process can seem interminable, and you might mistakenly believe that the program has crashed.

Fortunately, you can turn off revocation checking: select *Tools-Options-Security*, click the *Advanced* button, and select *Never* in the *Revocation Checking* area. Click *OK* twice to finish.

- Scott Spanbauer

ACROBAT 4.0 IS A-OK

If you use McAfee's VirusScan 4.x and have Adobe's new Acrobat Reader 4.0 installed on your system, you may have had an unnecessary security scare. After downloading virus definition file 4.0.4017, VirusScan would mistakenly report that the main Acrobat Reader executable file, **ar40.exe**, contained the NetBus trojan horse. Though ostensibly an above-board remote-control (and spying) program, NetBus is often exploited as a trojan horse. According to the Data Fellows antivirus Web site (**www.europe.datafellows.com/v-descs/netbus.htm**), hackers have used NetBus to steal data and delete files from remote users' PCs over the Internet.

Luckily, the NetBus scare was a false alarm. An Adobe spokesperson says that Acrobat is virus-free and that updating VirusScan to the 4.0.4019 virus definition file will prevent that false report. For the details from Network Associates, visit **www.avertlabs.com/public/datafiles/valerts/vinfo/ar40-info.asp**.

- Scott Spanbauer

WINDOWS NT 4.0 SP5, ALREADY

Microsoft is releasing Service Pack 5 (which fixes various minor and obscure bugs) hard on the heels of the previous update. In contrast, Service Pack 4 took nearly a year to appear. Microsoft says its new strategy, based on customer feedback, is to issue updates more frequently and to include only rock-solid bug fixes, omitting new features and drivers.

Like earlier updates, SP5 is cumulative. It incorporates previous service packs, and it fixes problems that cropped up in SP4, along with other assorted bugs.

Find SP5 on our cover CD or visit **www.microsoft.com/windows/downloads/winntw.asp**.

- Scott Spanbauer

REMOVE WINDOWS 98 AND OFFICE 97 IDS

You may have heard about the feature in Windows 98 and Office 97 that lets Microsoft upload users' personal data and unique ID information. Microsoft claims it didn't know about these surreptitious uploads, and says it uses the ID number only for legitimate customer-service tasks. Uh-huh.

To get the patch that prevents Windows 98's Registration Wizard from uploading your PCs configuration data, choose *Start-Windows Update* or visit **www.windowsupdate.microsoft.com**.

For the Office 97 fix, download a patch from **officeupdate.microsoft.com/downloadDetails/Off97uip.htm**. To remove the ID from Office documents, you can download the utility at **officeupdate.microsoft.com/downloadDetails/pf_setup.htm**.

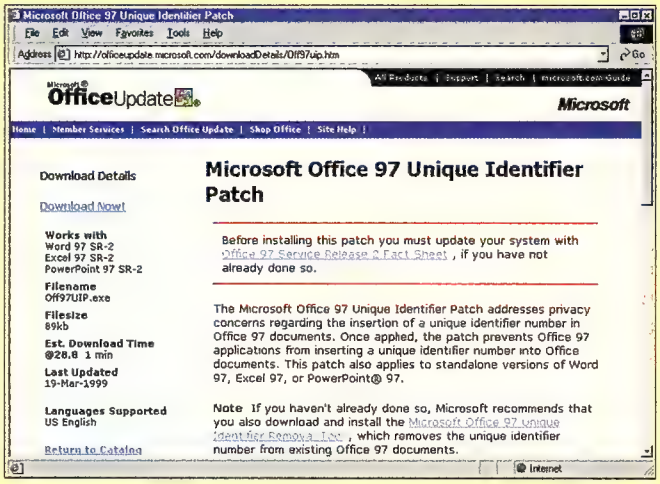
- Scott Spanbauer

Mac

DON'T DISCARD YOUR FLOPPIES YET

One of the most irritating things about working with floppy disks is the inordinate amount of time they can take for their icons to appear on the desktop. This especially happens with disks which have been used and overwritten often, and can also happen with Zip cartridges. The solution is simply to rebuild the desktop on the affected media. As soon as you insert the disk, hold down the **Command** and **Option** keys, then select *OK* when the dialogue appears. The difference can be amazing.

- Matthew JC Powell



Worried about Office 97 "unique identifiers"? Apply a patch to disable this feature

THE AGONY OF INVISIBLE APPS

Every once in a while, an application won't launch because of insufficient memory, and even when you've shut down every other open application, there still isn't enough for what you want to do. Sometimes, the Mac won't let you do something (like run an installer) while applications are running, even though, so far as you can tell, none is. The problem is "invisible" applications. Not quite an application but a bit more than a mere extension, these are used by developers to ensure that particular conditions are present when running some applications. Unfortunately, they don't always quit cleanly, and they often take up more memory than they should (especially under Mac OS 8.5).

One elegant solution is Peek-a-Boo, which you can download from **www.macfixit.com/library.shtml**. This $US20 shareware product not only lets you see what invisible apps are running, it also tells you how much of the processor's time is being dedicated to each app. What's more, Peek-a-Boo lets you change the applications' priorities so that they can take less CPU time (this can often be safer than just quitting completely).

- Matthew JC Powell

THE FASTEST FIND EVER

As well as its much-vaunted Internet searching capabilities, Sherlock (in Mac OS 8.5 and up) can also speed up local searches of your hard drive enor-mously by maintaining and updating an index of its contents.

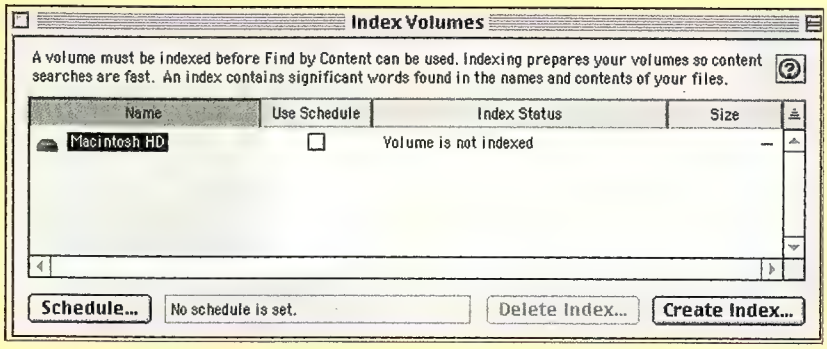
You must also create an index in order to use Sherlock's content searching and summary features. Problem: indexing takes a while, during which time you can't really do much with your Mac. You can schedule the indexing to happen automatically, but not everyone can or wants to leave their machine on overnight.

Solution: start Sherlock indexing manually last thing before you leave work. When the *Indexing Progress* dialogue appears, switch to the Finder and shut down.

Another dialogue will appear asking if you want to finish indexing before you shut down. Click *Continue*, and as soon as Sherlock has finished its duty the machine will shut down.

Alternatively, you could use the shareware Index and Shutdown, from Carnation Software (**www.carnationsoftware.com**), which does much the same thing but with a simple menu-driven interface.

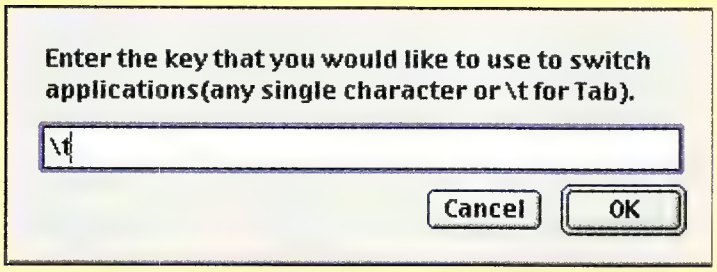
- Matthew JC Powell



Once you've indexed your hard drive, Sherlock becomes a very powerful ally in organising your mountains of data, but be warned: indexing takes time, especially if you have a lot of files

KEYBOARD CONFLICTS

In Quark Xpress, the keyboard shortcuts for changing tools (Command-Tab and Command-Shift-Tab) are the same as those used by Mac OS 8.5 to switch between applications. This can lead to unexpected and often undesirable results. It is possible to change Mac OS's keyboard shortcuts using an AppleScript in Mac OS Help. In the Finder, select Mac OS Help from the Help menu, or type **Command-?**, then search under "keyboard shortcuts" and select "keyboard shortcuts for switching between open applications". About halfway down the document there is a highlighted link called "Help me modify the keyboard shortcuts" which will lead you through a step-by-step procedure for creating your own shortcuts for Mac OS. (Note: the script needs to be told where to find the Application Switcher — it's in the System Folder under Extensions.)



Customising your shortcuts — Apple provides a handy AppleScript within the Help application which will let you make your shortcuts what you want, but be careful!

The danger with this is that you may accidentally create conflicts with other applications' keyboard shortcuts. A simpler solution for Quark users is to use **Command-Option-Tab** and **Command-Option-Shift-Tab** instead.

- Matthew JC Powell

pcw

The Upgrader

UPGRADE A PALMPILOT TO A PALM III

By Stan Miastkowski

If you own a Pilot (1000 or 5000) or PalmPilot (Personal or Professional) personal digital assistant and covet the capabilities of the more advanced Palm III, there's a remedy for your PDA envy.

Thanks to the Pilot and PalmPilot units' modular design, with their core applications and operating system in ROM, the readily available Palm 2MB Upgrade can transform your Pilot or PalmPilot into a Palm III. You can obtain the upgrade from any Palm reseller (call 1300 360 558 to identify a stockist near you). The $299 upgrade adds not only 2MB RAM but also an infrared port (through a clever modification of the unit's rear panel), the Palm OS 3.0, and new applications. If you're upgrading a Pilot, the only Palm III features you won't have are screen backlighting and a flip-up cover. If you're upgrading a PalmPilot, you'll miss only the cover. Unfortunately, Palm Computing has yet to introduce a kit to upgrade to the new Palm IIIx or Palm V.

Upgrading your PalmPilot or Pilot is easy and fast. Since the task requires you to handle a couple of sensitive memory boards, consider purchasing an antistatic wrist strap from any computer store. If you choose not to use a strap, then be sure to disperse static electricity by touching a grounded metal object, such as the case on the back of your PC, before touching its sensitive components.

Here's how to perform the alchemy.

1 Back up your Pilot or PalmPilot data. Before you upgrade your PDA, back up its data to your PC. If your HotSync Manager doesn't start automatically with Windows 95 or 98, start Manager manually (select *Start-Programs-PalmPilot Desktop-HotSync Manager*).

Place your Pilot or PalmPilot in its cradle and press the HotSync button on the cradle. Connection and backup are automatic. You'll see a status screen on your PC, and the PalmPilot will beep when the backup is done.

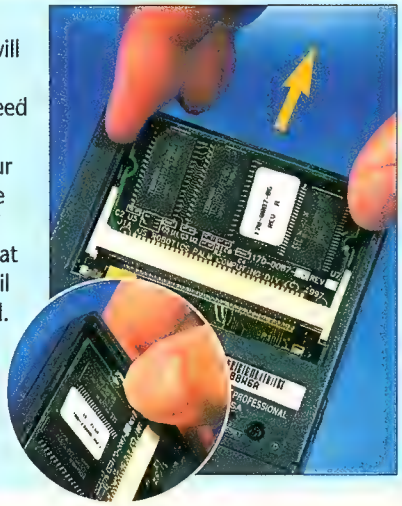
2 Remove the memory door. Before you go any further, turn off the PDA, slide open the battery door on the rear of the unit, and remove the batteries.

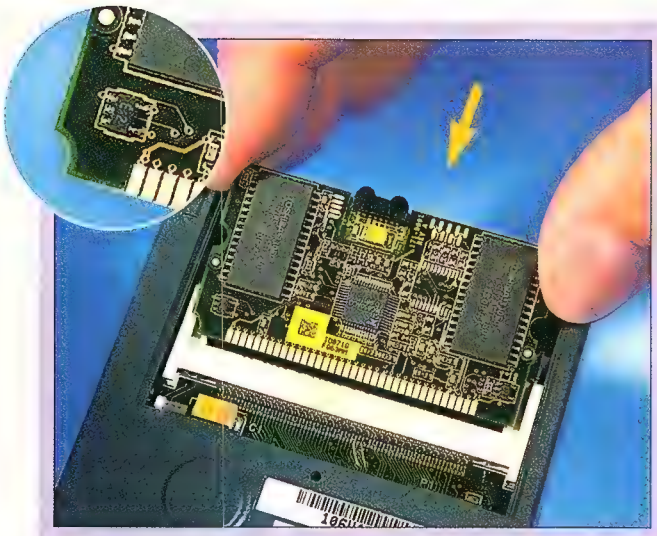
While holding the unit face down in your palm, gently push the straight end of a bent paper clip into the tiny hole below the memory door. At the same time, push the memory door upward with the thumb of the hand that's holding the unit. Primitive tools notwithstanding, this operation takes a fine touch. Be careful not to push the paper clip too hard; you're simply releasing an internal

3 Remove the memory card. Important: before you perform this step, note that it will remove any add-on applications you've installed in your PalmPilot or Pilot. You'll need to reinstall them after the upgrade.

Depending on the production run of your device, either metal or plastic clips hold the memory card in place. Release each side of the memory card by sliding each clip, one at a time, towards the outside of the case until both sides of the memory card are released. Then gently lift the card upward.

Once the clips are released, remove the memory card by gently rocking it back and forth while pulling it away from the socket it's mounted in.





4 Install the new memory card. Remove the new memory card from its plastic protective bag. Note the notch in one corner next to the connection contacts. For proper placement, this notch must be to the left as you install the new card.

Carefully but firmly insert the new memory card into its connector until it's seated. Check that the card is aligned properly.

Press the module down until the retainer clips snap into place.

5 Install the new memory door. Take the new memory door that came with the upgrade kit, and slide it onto the PalmPilot or Pilot until it clicks into place. Caution: don't use the original PalmPilot or Pilot door you removed in step 2. The new door provides extra room for components on the new memory board as well as a window for the infrared port

6 Reinitialise, recalibrate, and reinstall. Before your upgrade will work, you need to perform a soft reset. Take the bent paper clip you used to remove the door, and press its end gently into the hole marked Reset, located in the label area on the rear of the PalmPilot or Pilot.

You'll need to recalibrate the screen by tapping on the indicated areas of the screen. Then reset the time and date.

Using the CD-ROM included with the upgrade kit, install the new version of Desktop Organizer on your PC. (Your upgraded PalmPilot or Pilot will still work with the older version of the Desktop Organizer, but the new version adds features that you'll want.)

Finally, reinstall any add-on applications from your PC using HotSync.

7 Test IR beaming. With its new IR port, your PDA can beam address book entries to (and receive them from) any other IR-enabled Palm PDA. Test the port by beaming a business card or address entry between your PDA and a friend's.

The I.T. Industry Wants You...

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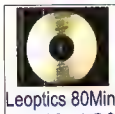

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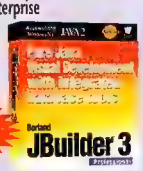

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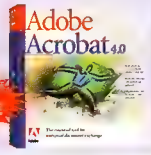

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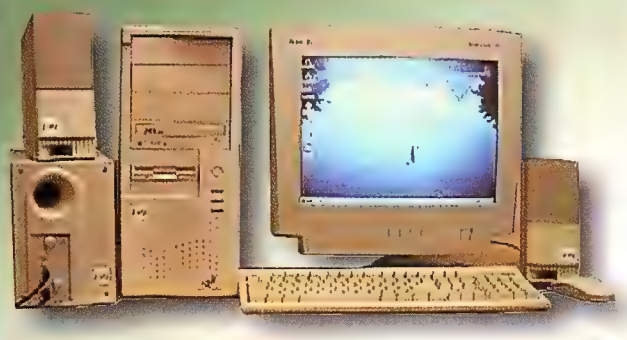

PROCESSORS	-	Intel Pentium II & III Processors with 512K Cache Memory
MOTHERBOARDS	-	Gigabyte GA686BXC Intel BX Chipset Motherboard
MEMORY	-	Premium Grade 128Mb SDRAM PC100
HARD DRIVE	-	13Gig ULTRA ATA EIDE Hard Disk Drive
FLOPPY DRIVE	-	1.44M, 3.5" Floppy Disk Drive
VIDEO CARD	-	16M Diamond Viper V550 AGP Award Winning Card
MONITOR	-	17" ACER 7277C Monitor (3 Year On-site Warranty)
CASING	-	ATX Midi Tower Casing with 250W Power Supply
KEYBOARD	-	104 Honeywell Spacemate PS/2 Keyboard
MOUSE	-	Microsoft Intellimouse OEM
CD-ROM	-	48X Creative EIDE CD ROM Drive
SOUND CARD	-	Genuine Creative PCI 64 Sound Card
SPEAKERS	-	700W PMPO Sub-woofer Luxury Stereo Speakers
SOFTWARE	-	Windows 98 in CD fully Installed & Configured
MODEM	-	56K V.90 internal Voice/Fax/Modem

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	-	$ 2630 or $19/Week*)	-	PIII-450
	-	$ 3050 or $23/Week*)	-	PIII-500
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Forté Server Series

PROCESSORS	-	Intel Pentium II & III 512K Cache Memory
MOTHERBOARD	-	Gigabyte GA686BXS Ultra Wide SCSI Built-in
MEMORY	-	Premium Grade 128Mb SDRAM PC100
HARD DRIVE	-	9.1G SCSI QUANTUM U/W
FLOPPY DRIVE	-	1.44M, 3.5" Floppy Disk Drive
VIDEO CARD	-	4M Trident AGP Motherboard
MONITOR	-	14" HANSOL Monitor
CASING	-	ATX Midi Tower Casing with 250W Power Supply
KEYBOARD	-	104 Windows Keyboard PS/2
MOUSE	-	Logitech PS/2 Mouse
CD-ROM	-	40X EIDE CD ROM Drive
SOUND CARD	-	Genuine Creative PCI 32 Sound Card
SPEAKERS	-	480W PMPO Stereo Speakers
NETWORK	-	Skymaster PCI 10/100 RJ45
SOFTWARE	-	Windows NT Server with 5 Client Access License
MODEM	-	56K V.90 external Voice/Fax/Modem

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PROCESSORS	-	Intel Pentium II Celeron 128K Cache Memory
MOTHERBOARD	-	PC Chips BXPro Motherboard
MEMORY	-	Premium Grade 64Mb SDRAM PC100
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FLOPPY DRIVE	-	1.44M, 3.5" Floppy Disk Drive
VIDEO CARD	-	8M AGP built-in
MONITOR	-	15" ACER 54e Monitor (3 Year On-site Warranty)
CASING	-	ATX Midi Tower Casing with 250W Power Supply
KEYBOARD	-	104 Windows Keyboard PS/2
MOUSE	-	Serial Mouse
CD-ROM	-	40X EIDE CD ROM Drive
SOUND CARD	-	Built in 16 Bit Sound Card.
SPEAKERS	-	80W PMPO Stereo Speakers
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FLOPPY DRIVE	-	1.44M, 3.5" Floppy Disk Drive
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MONITOR	-	15" ACER 54e Monitor (3 Year On-site Warranty)
CASING	-	ATX Midi Tower Casing with 250W Power Supply
KEYBOARD	-	104 Windows Keyboard PS/2
MOUSE	-	Logitech PS/2 Mouse
CD-ROM	-	40X EIDE CD ROM Drive
SOUND CARD	-	Diamond MX-300 Sound Card OEM
SPEAKER	-	480W PMPO Stereo Speakers
SOFTWARE	-	Windows 98 in CD fully Installed & Configured
MODEM	-	56K V.90 internal Voice/Fax/Modem

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	-	$ 1860 or $14/Week*)	-	K6 3-400
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Forté Pro Series

PROCESSORS	-	Intel Pentium II & III Processors
MOTHERBOARD	-	Gigabyte GA686BXC Intel BX Chipset Motherboard
MEMORY	-	Premium Grade 64Mb SDRAM PC100
HARD DRIVE	-	8.4Gig ULTRA ATA EIDE Hard Disk Drive
FLOPPY DRIVE	-	1.44M, 3.5" Floppy Disk Drive
VIDEO CARD	-	8M i740 AGP Video Accellerator Card
MONITOR	-	15" ACER 54e Monitor (3 Year On-site Warranty)
CASING	-	ATX Midi Tower Casing with 250W Power Supply
KEYBOARD	-	104 Windows Keyboard PS/2
MOUSE	-	Logitech PS/2 Mouse
CD-ROM	-	40X EIDE CD ROM Drive
SOUND CARD	-	Genuine Creative PCI 32 Sound Card
SPEAKERS	-	480W PMPO Stereo Speakers
SOFTWARE	-	Windows 98 in CD fully Installed & Configured
MODEM	-	56K V.90 internal Voice/Fax/Modem

PRICE	-	$ 1750 or $14/Week*)	-	PII-400
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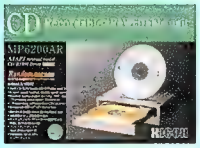

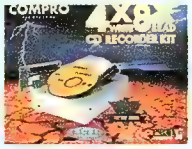

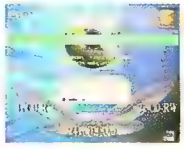

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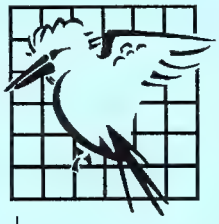

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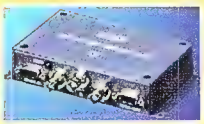

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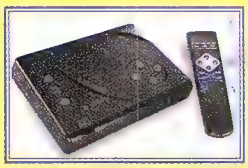

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Cat. 2618	1 Port Printer PnP PCI	$159
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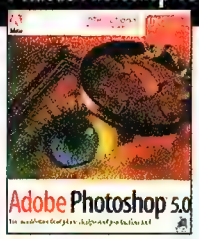

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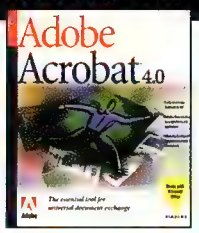

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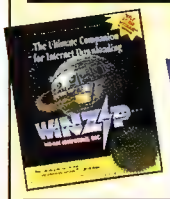

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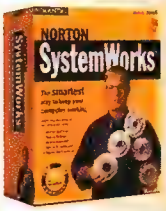

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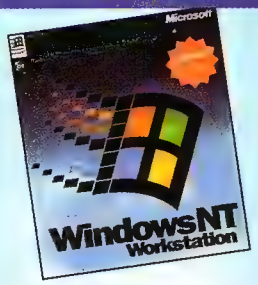

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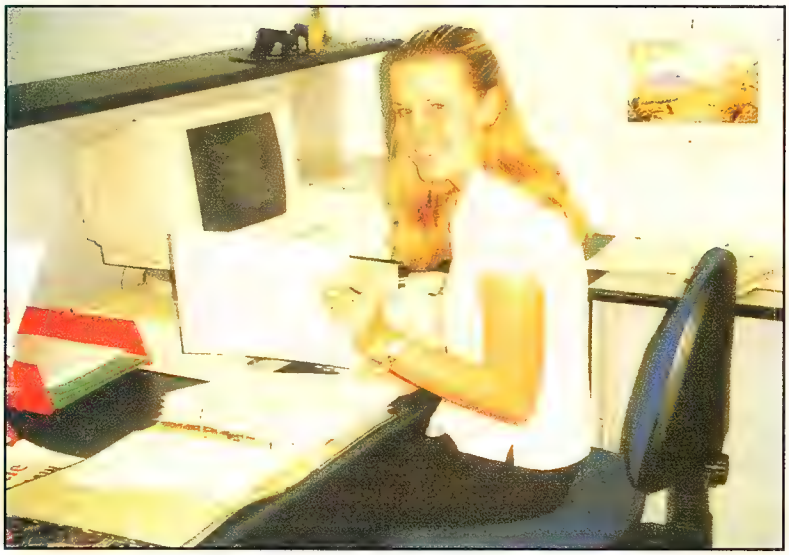

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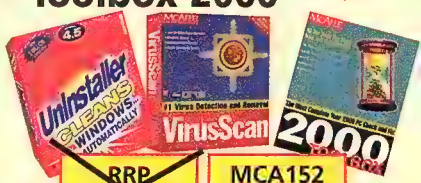

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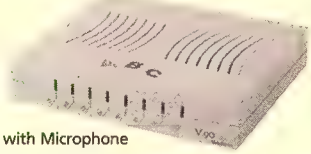

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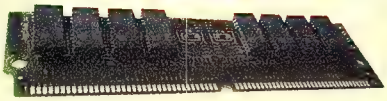

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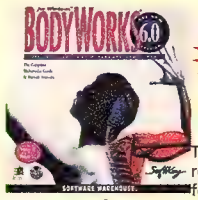

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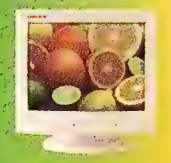

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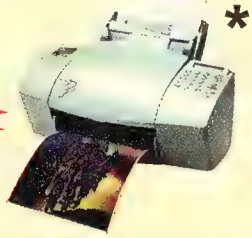

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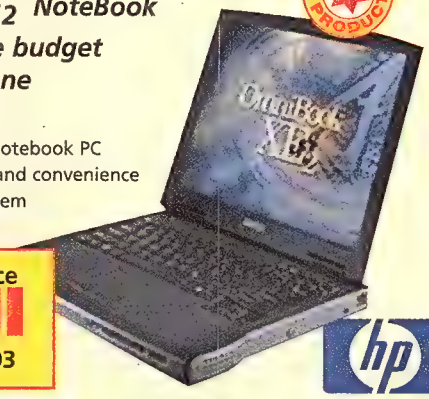

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Tecra 8000 333	Intel Celeron 333	64MB	6GB	24x	13.3 TFT	3 years	3kg	$5199	TOSH33
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The new HP Jornada 820 Handheld PC provides email and Internet access, convenient personal information management and the functionality of Microsoft Windows CE - all in a portable, affordable package.

Featuring a comfortable, touch typeable keyboard plus an integrated touch pad, 10 hours of battery life and instant-on power, the HP Jornada is the perfect companion to your desktop PC.

Includes a built in 56k modem, voice recorder and pocket versions of Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, Powerpoint, Outlook and Internet Explorer.

HPH001

$1799

MASSIVE RANGE

We aim to stock at least 95% of ALL the items we sell

Stylus Color 440

A Perfect Introduction to Colour Printing at Home

Key Features

- Easy-to-use Interactive Online help.
- Fast print speeds
- Free **PhotoQuality Paper Pack**
- Windows '95 ICM Colour Compliance
- EPSON CoverPlus 3 year extended warranty

Epson Stylus Color 440
EPS331
$229

Stylus Color 640

Superior Colour Inkjet Printer for a broad range of home applications. Outstanding value for the home.

Key Features

- 1440dpi colour & true black printing with EPSON Super MicroDot™
- Fast print speeds
- Epson PhotoEnhance 3 for Optimisation of Digital Images
- with Epson Fun Factory CD

FREE CARD GIFT SET 10PK 5x8" CARD & ENVELOPES WHILE STOCKS LAST

Epson Stylus Color 640
EPS332
$309

INTERNATIONAL SOFTWARE WAREHOUSE carries the full range of Epson Products.

Don't forget to order your Printer Consumables!
See page 10 & 11

EPSON

EPL-5700 Laser

Compact, workgroup laser providing 8ppm

The EPSON EPL-5700 combines sharp, high resolution text with fast 8ppm output. Compact enough to fit on any desktop, and ready to deliver higher performance and value, the EPL-5700 also offers exceptionally easy networking capabilities. It's a smart business investment that will save you both time and money.

FREE PAPER TRAY WORTH $500 CALL FOR DETAILS

Epson EPL-5700 Laser Printer
EPS355
$859

EPSON

Stylus Photo 1200

The ultimate A3+ Photo Reproduction Quality printer

- 1440dpi, full-bleed A3 prints
- Superior six-colour photo image
- Variable-Sized Droplet technology, with ink droplets invisible to the naked eye - utilising a combination of small, medium and large ink droplets for superior blends and gradations from the Ultra Micro 6 picolitre Dot.

The combination of EPSON's Variable-sized Droplet Technology with Ultra Micro Dots is an enhancement to EPSON's Micro Piezo printhead technology - part of the EPSON PerfectPicture Imaging System.

Epson Stylus Photo 1200
EPS344
$929

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EPSON Stylus Photo 700

Epson Stylus Photo 1200
EPS354
$929

The 1440dpi Photo Printer for home printing needs!

Combining the superior performance of EPSON's PerfectPicture Imaging System and 1440 dpi print resolution this printer offers photographic quality colour and sharp black text printing as standard - perfect for all home printing needs. There's really no limit to the fun you can have with an Epson Stylus Photo 700.

Now you have **THE POWER TO CREATE.**

Epson EPL 5700
EPS355
$859

Epson Stylus Photo 700
EPS312
$419

EPSON Stylus Color 740

An outstanding combination of print quality and performance

This latest state-of-the-art technology meets the demands of the power colour user. By combining EPSON's new Variable-Sized Droplet technology and Ultra Micro Dots with EPSON's PerfectPicture Imaging System, the EPSON STYLUS COLOR 740 has created a new standard of image quality for the SOHO environment.

- Print speed A4 memo black text pattern
- printed in Economy mode - 9.9 sec (6 ppm approx)
- A4 memo colour text pattern: printed in Economy mode - 10 sec (6 ppm approx)
- A4 text & photo pattern: printed in Normal (360 dpi) mode -18.5 sec (3.2 ppm approx)
- Print direction Bi-directional with logic seeking
- Resolution Maximum 1440 x 720 dpi
- Ability to produce true 1440 x 720 dpi
- PC and Macintosh compatible and features a parallel, serial and USB port.

Epson Stylus Photo 740
EPS330
$489

EPSON STYLUS COLOR 900

The fastest inkjet printer in its class

Introducing the EPSON STYLUS COLOR 900 inkjet printer, the fastest colour inkjet in its class. The STYLUS COLOR 900 prints at 12ppm - an amazing one page every five seconds.

The STYLUS COLOR 900 is ideal for the business environment, catering for different business needs such as black text, colour presentations and graphs. It also offers flexible connectivity solutions, including Universal Serial Bus (USB) for Windows 98 and iMac's, and Mac G3.

Variable-Sized Droplet Technology

The STYLUS COLOR 900 incorporates EPSON's Variable-Sized Droplet technology and is an enhancement to Micro Piezo technology, part of the PerfectPicture Imaging System. With Variable-Sized Droplet technology the dot size is controlled according to the tone level required of the final output. Large ink dots are used when printing solid colours and small ink dots when printing gradations, skin tones and more detailed areas of an image. By using a combination of large, medium and small ink dot sizes, the EPSON STYLUS COLOR 900 produces a combination of speed and print quality without compromise.

EPS176
$779

FULLY NETWORKABLE WITH ETHERNET 10/100BASET

EPSON

Epson Ink Cartridges

EPS334 S020187 BLK....$39
EPS335 S020191 CLR $45
EPS333 S020189 BLK....$45
EPS145 S020110 PHOTO $45
EPS352 T003011 BLK $55
EPS351 T005011 CLR $69

Epson Paper

EPS321 S041140 PHOTO $25
EPS322 S041142 PHOTO $55
EPS161 S041063 TRANS $89

Epson Toner

EPS349 5050010 BLK $195

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HP Ink Cartridges

AUC122 51645AA BLK $59

HP1007 51649AA CLR $59

AUC114 C1816AA PHOTO $65

AUC123 51641AA CLR $59

HWP344 C1823AA CLR $69

HP1016 51629GA BLK $35

HP1008 51629AA BLK $59

HP Toner

HWP001 C4092A $105

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FREE GIFT

Make sure to ask for your gift when ordering

HP DeskJet 695C

The affordable printer for easy, quality colour results and optional photo quality printing

Key Features:

- 600x600dpi black resolution and 600x300dpi colour resolution
- 100 sheet input capacity
- Parallel interface
- 1-year limited HP warranty
- 5 pages per minute black
- 1.7 pages per minute colour printing
- Black and up to 16.7 million colours
- Window NT 4.0, 98, 3,1x and many MS-DOS applications

Included in the Box:

- power adapter
- black print cartridge
- colour print cartridge
- printer software
- user's guide

HEWLETT PACKARD
Expanding Possibilities

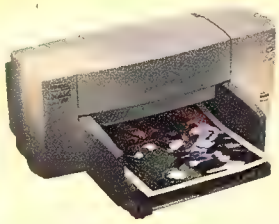
HP DeskJet 695C
HWP365
$259

HP DeskJet 710C

HP's brilliant photo-quality colour printer at the right price

The HP DeskJet 710C makes everything you print look great, even on plain paper. With HP's RealLife Imaging System, brilliant photo-quality colour printing is easy. Built-in ColorSmart II gives you perfect colour automatically, so what you see on screen is what you get.

- up to 6 pages per minute black, 3 pages per minute colour
- resolution 600 dpi black, HP PhotoREt II color
- easy setup and operation provide hassle-free printing
- compact design and quiet operation ideal for small workspaces
- compatible with Windows NT 4.0, 98, 95, 3.1x and MS DOS applications



HEWLETT PACKARD
Expanding Possibilities

HP DeskJet 710C
HWP346
$329

HP LaserJet 1100

It's the new, improved personal laser printer standard

- 8 pages per minute rated engine speed
- 2 MB RAM handles complex documents with ease
- Improved print quality produces better graphics and images
- 125 sheets bin capacity
- Enhanced driver allows manual duplexing and N-up printing
- HP UltraPrecise Toner Cartridge for improved gray scale images
- Parallel cable in the box
- Windows 3.1, 3.11, 95, 98, NT 4.0, OS/2 and DOS
- JetPath technology allows you to add copying and scanning capabilities

HEWLETT PACKARD
Expanding Possibilities

HP LaserJet 1100
HWP257
$789

HP LaserJet 1100A
HWP258
$949

HP DeskJet 810C

Easy to use Photo-quality results

- HP colour layering technology for PhotoREt II delivers brilliant photo-quality on any paper
- Crisp black text looks professional on plain paper
- HP ColorSmart II provides perfect colour automatically - What you see on screen is what you get on paper
- Hassle-free printing on many types and sizes, including envelopes, greeting cards and banners
- Quick reliable printing
- Up to 6.5 ppm in black and 4.5 ppm in colour
- Exclusive HP Ink dries fast for smudge-resistant text and photos
- Quiet operation and compact durable design are ideal for small work areas
- Perfect for everything you print - from school work and reports to stunning photos

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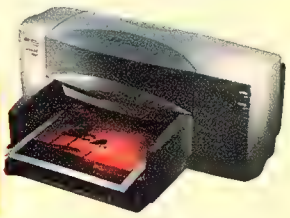

HP DeskJet 810c
HWP378
$389

HP OfficeJet 635

All-in-One – Print, Copy, Scan in colour – Fax

The HP OfficeJet 635 provides the small business PC user with optimum quality colour printing, colour copying and colour scanning, and plain-paper faxing. It is now easier than ever to create custom, full colour documents combining photos, text and graphics. And it comes in a compact unit offering great value and the ultimate in ease of use with a PC.

$100 Cashback offer ends 31st July 1999

HEWLETT PACKARD
Expanding Possibilities

All in One

HP OfficeJet 635
HWP209
$779

HP OfficeJet 710

Four in one system, Printer, Fax Copier and Scanner - All in Colour!

- All-In-One - Photo-quality colour printing with PhotoREt color, Full-featured plain paper fax with new colour faxing, Scan-to-email to quickly send colour documents to any email address, Convenient, full-colour copying, Smooth, efficient integration.
  - Print – Up to 5 ppm black and 2 ppm colour.
  - Fax – Full-featured plain paper fax, plus new colour fax.
- Scan - Scan photos directly.
- Copy - Convenient full-colour copying saves you time.

HEWLETT PACKARD
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All in One

HP OfficeJet 710
HWP369
$949

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Canon Select the BubbleJet™ printer that's right for you

BJC-4310SP

Just about everything you could want, and a little bit more

- Super Economy for low-cost colour and B&W printing.
- Print up to 3600 B&W pages with BC-20 cartridge, and 800 B&W and 400 colour pages with BC-21e cartridge.
- Optional PhotoRealism inks for gold standard photo quality printing.
- High speed black cartridge prints up to 4.5 pages per min.
- Banner printing up to 6 A4 pages in length.
- Better Internet printing with Image Optimiser.
- Automatic Feed holds up to 100 sheets.

Optional colour scanhead available CAN099 $149

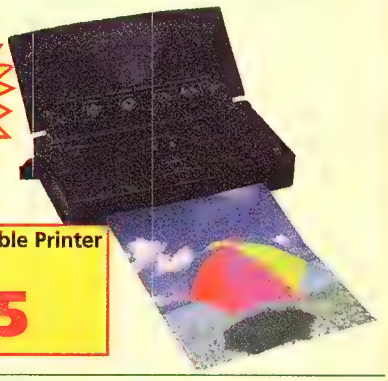
Canon BJC-4310SP Printer
CAN094
$199

BJC-80

Uses half your briefcase not half your desktop!

- Drop Modulation Technology™ - the dual drop size breakthrough that produces smoother colour gradations.
- Office laser quality finish and B&W speeds up to 4.5 pages per minute with dedicated black cartridge.
- Better Internet images with Image Optimiser.
- Windows 95 compatible IrDA infrared port for cable-less communications.
- Optional scanner head for colour graphics, OCR and faxing.
- Fits in half a briefcase, weighs only 1.4Kg!
- International warranty included with purchase.

Don't forget to order your CAN231 Cartridge! $75

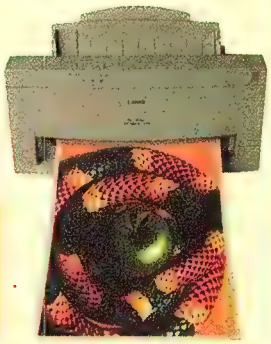


Canon BJC-80 Portable Printer
CAN001
$335

BJC-4650

- Full colour printing up to A3 - for CAD, DTP and design work.
- Convert your printer into a colour scanner with the optional scan head.
- Automatic switching for Windows and Macintosh.
- PhotoRealism, the gold standard, near silver-halide photographic quality.
- Drop Modulation Technology™ for improved colour gradations, on any paper.
- Image Optimiser improves quality of images down-loaded from the Internet.
- Optional high-speed black ink cartridge for B&W printing.

Optional colour scanhead available CAN099 $149



Canon BJC-4650 Printer
CAN218
$409

BJC-5000

- Resolution up to 1440 dpi, dual drop sizes, optional PhotoRealism inks and up to 7 colours.
- Two cartridges side by side minimising cartridge travel and increasing print speed up to 7.5 pages per minute in black or up to 2.85 pages per minute in colour.
- New inks produce a blacker richer black for finished correspondence.
- Tailor output to your needs with multiple cartridge combinations and paper sizes up to A3.
- 3 cartridges in the box - 2 x BC-23 black cartridges and a BC-21e colour cartridge with Drop Modulation Technology and a cartridge storage container - fantastic value for money.

A3 CAPABLE! Perfect for full Bleed A4 & Banners !!

Canon BJC 5000 Printer
CAN244
$519

BJC-7100

Advanced, sophisticated colour system.

- 7-colour ink system and up to 25 levels of tonal gradation for incredibly rich photographic half-tones.
- 90 times more colour combinations than conventional CMY inks.
- High and low density inks define difficult to reproduce skin tones.
- PhotoRealism printing on plain paper.
- Superior plain paper performance.
- P-POP (Plain Paper Optimised Printing) gives plain paper a coated paper quality finish for better looking output.
- Documents printed with P-POP are 99.4% water fast!

Canon BJC-7100
CAN100
$499

Canon Ink Cartridges

CAN063 BC02 BLK	$55
CAN008 BC03 BLK	$55
CAN064 BC05 CLR	$69
CAN007 BC06 PHOTO CLR	$65
CAN023 BC06KIT PHOTO CLR	$79
CAN231 BC10 BLK	$75
CAN024 BC20 BLK	$65
CAN065 BC22EKIT PHOTO CLR	$109
CAN084 BC11C CLR	$39
CAN068 BC11BK BLK	$25
CAN015 BC21E CLR	$89
CAN226 BC62Photo Head	$99

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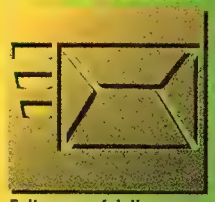

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Ink

Code	Type	Description	ISW Code	Price	5 or More Discount
51625A	Tri-Colour	DW -DJ 310/500 series/200/400	AUC111	$59	$56
51626A	Black	DJ 500/600, DW 500 & HP fax	HPI006	$55	$53
51629A	Black	DJ & DW 600 series, OJ 590/635	HPI008	$55	$53
51640A	Black	DJ1200C/1200C/PS & Designjet 230/250C/650/3xx/4xx/7xx	AUC118	$55	$53
51641A	Tri-Colour	DJ800/850C/870CXI & OJ1150C	AUC123	$59	$56
51644C	Cyan	Designjet 3X/4X/7X	HPI019	$65	$62
51644M	Magenta	Designjet 3X/4X/7X	HPI020	$65	$62
51644Y	Yellow	Designjet 3X/4X/7X	HPI021	$65	$62
51645A	Large Black	DJ 850C/870C/880/890C/1600CM, DesignJet 750C/755CM & OJ1150C	AUC122	$55	$53
51649A	Tri-Colour	DJ & DW 600 series, OJ 590/635	HPI007	$59	$56
C1823AA	Tri-Colour	DJ 880/890C/720C	HWP344	$65	$63

Toner

C3903A	Microfine	LJ 5P/5MP/6P/6MP approx 4000 page life	AUC126	$135	$129
C3906A	Low-melt Microfine	LJ 5L & 6L, approx 2500 page life	AUC125	$105	$99
C4092A	Black	LJ 1100 series	HWP001	$99	$95

Paper

C6765A	Photo	A4 DJ690 20 sheet	AUC106	$15	$15
CDR1000A	Label	Accessory kit to create labels for CDs with software, 30 blank labels & mechanism	HWP126	$69	$67
C6045A	Greeting Cards	Glossy Greeting Cards A4, 10 sheets/envelopes	HPP035	$19	$17
C1821A	Banner	A4 100 Sheet DJ690 only	AUC107	$19	$18
C1847A	Photo	A4 20 Sheet for DJ690C	AUC106	$15	$14
C3837A	Glossy	A4 50 Sheet	AUC103	$79	$75
C6050A	Transfers	10 Iron on T-shirt transfers, DJ600/660/690C	HPP017	$29	$26
C2976A	Glossy	A4, 50 sheets, LJ 5/5M	HPP041	$95	$89
C3832A	Transparency	A4 Premium 20 sheet	AUC101	$35	$32

Packs

Z4137P	Fun Pack	51649A Ink Cartridge, Iron On transfers, Greeting Card & Envelopes, Bright white paper	HPP038	$49	$47
Z4140P	Office Pack	51645A Ink cartridge, Premium transparency, Bright white paper, premium coated paper	HPP040	$59	$55
Z4139M	Party Pack	C1816A Ink cartridge, Photo paper, Banner paper, Greeting Card paper & envelopes	HPP039	$55	$53

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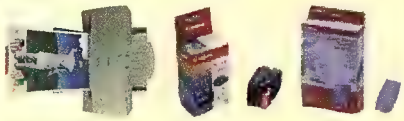

Ink

Code	Type	Description	ISW Code	Price	5 or more Discount
BC03	Black	High Capacity BJC210/255	CAN008	$55	$50
BCI10BK	Black	Refill 3 PACK BJ30/BJC70	CAN086	$29	$28
BJI643M	Magenta	Refill BJ800/880	CAN028	$59	$59
BJI201B-HC	Black	Refill BJC600	CAN059	$29	$28
BJI643BK	Black	Refill BJ800/880	CAN066	$49	$48
BC61	Colour	BJC7000	CAN017	$89	$85
BCI62	Photo	Replacement Ink BC62, BJC7000	CAN227	$69	$66
BCI21BK	Black	Refill BJ4000/5000/5500/MPC	CAN072	$19	$17
BC02	Black	Refill BJ200/230/210/240/255SP	CAN063	$55	$53
BCI21C	Tri-colour	Refill BJ4000/5000/5500/MPC	CAN071	$39	$36
BC05	Tri-colour	Refill BJC210/210SP/240/255SP	CAN064	$65	$63
BJI642	Black	Refill BJ300/330	CAN026	$35	$34

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Ink

Code	Type	Description	ISW Code	Price	5 or more discount
S020191	Colour	Stylus 740	EPS335	$45	$42
S020093	Black	Stylus 400/500/600/700/Photo/Photo Ex	EPS069	$39	$37
S020108	Black	Stylus Colour 800/850/1520	EPS304	$45	$43
S020110	Photo	Stylus Photo Colour	EPS145	$39	$37
S020089	Colour	Stylus Colour 400/600/800/850/1520	EPS303	$45	$43
S020034	Black	Colour/Colour Pro/Colour Pro XL	EPS305	$39	$37
S020047	Black	Stylus 820/II/IIS	EPS036	$39	$36
T005011	Colour	Stylus 900 Colour	EPS353	$65	$Call
T003011	Black	Stylus 900 Black	EPS352	$55	$Call
S020118	Black	Stylus 3000 Black	EPS166	$109	$105
S020122	Yellow	Stylus Colour 3000	EPS169	$109	$105
S020126	Magenta	Stylus Colour 3000	EPS168	$109	$105
S020187	Black	Stylus 440/640/1200	EPS334	$35	$34
C832162	Upgrade Kit	Stylus 820/1500/II	EPS337	$109	$105
S020049	Colour	Stylus 820/II/IIS/1500	EPS037	$49	$47
S020189	Black	Stylus 740	EPS333	$45	$43
S020066	Colour	Stylus Pro XL+	EPS320	$85	$81

Paper

S041026	Photo	720dpi Inkjet A4, 200 sheet, Stylus Colour/Pro/Pro XL/820/IIs/II/1500 & Stylus 400/500/600/800/1520	EPS345	$55	$52
S041031	Pack	20x A3 360dpi, 20x A4 720dpi, 5x A4Transparency Film	EPS346	$35	$32
S041123	Photo	A2 Glossy, 20 sheets	EPS347	$109	$105
S041134	Photo	4x6"x 20 sheet	EPS164	$19	$17
S041140	Photo	A4 20 Sheet, Stylus 700/EX/850	EPS321	$19	$19
S041142	Photo	A3 20 Sheet, Stylus 700/EX/850	EPS322	$55	$51
S041143	Photo	A3+ 20 Sheet, Stylus 700/EX/850	EPS325	$79	$75
S041144	Stickers	5 sheets x 16 Stickers	EPS348	$15	$12
S041154	Iron-on Transfer	Stylus 700/EX/850	EPS341	$29	$27

Toner

S050010	Toner	EPL5700	EPS349	$195	$189
S050005	Toner	EPL5500, approx 3000 page life	EPS350	$115	$109

Miscellaneous

Code	Category	Type	Description	ISW Code	Price	5 or more Discount
S041063	Film	Transparency	Stylus Color/Pro XL/Pro/II/IIs/820/1500, 30Sheet, A4	EPS161	$89	$85
C842352	RIP	Postscript	Stylus Photo Ex, Postscript level 2 Emulation	EPS323	$455	$440

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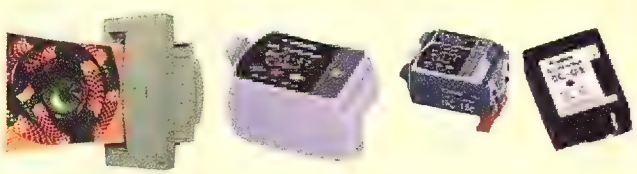

Miscellaneous

BC22EKIT	Ink+Paper	Photo	Refill Ink + Paper, BJC4200/4300/5000/MP	CAN065	$109	$106
BC60	Print Head	Black	P/Head + Ink, BJC7000	CAN016	$89	$88
BC10	Print Head	Black	P/Head W/BCI10K, BJ30/BJC50/70/80	CAN231	$75	$71
BC20	Print Head	Black	P/Head + Ink, BJC4000/5500/MPC	CAN024	$65	$63
BC11E	Print Head	Colour	P/Head W/BCI11BK,BCI11C, BJC50/70/80	CAN095	$85	$82
BC21E	Print Head	Colour	P/Head + BCI21C,BCI21BK, BJC4000/5000/MP	CAN015	$89	$87
BC62	Ink+P/Head	Photo Head	Refill + Printhead, BJC7000	CAN226	$99	$96
IS22	Scanner Head	Colour	BJC4300	CAN099	$145	$144

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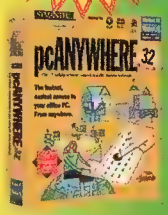

PCANYWHERE V8.0

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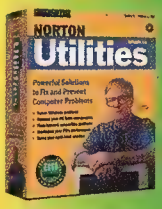

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HP ScanJet 3200C

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This one pass colour and mono flatbed scanner is so easy to use that you will be scanning in minutes. It offers a complete and versatile solution for photo's text and more. HP software guides you through each scan in a few easy steps and even scans directly to or from your software application and HP Intelligent Scanning Technology delivers great results automatically.

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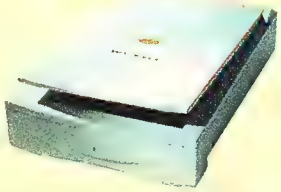
- supports multiple file formats
- enhanced parallel interface for Windows 95 or 98
- includes parallel cable and power cord

HP ScanJet 3200C
HPS027
$185



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The easiest scanner for home

If you need an easy scanning solution, try the HP ScanJet 4100C. Everything you need for unmatched ease and convenience is right in the box, including software to scan, copy, make changes, store or print.

4100C Features

- Push button scanning
- Dual image scanning
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- 36-bit colour image processor
- Scan direct to application (drag & drop)
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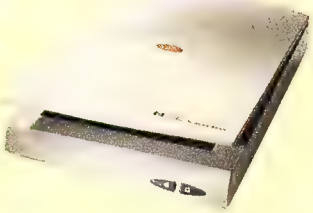

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HP ScanJet 4100C
HPS030
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All the features of the 4100C plus:

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- 600dpi optical, 9600dpi enhanced.
- On-line e-mail and web task software.
- USB and Parallel Port capable.
- Completes scan job twice as fast as before.
- Scan line art for enlargement with no loss of quality.

HP ScanJet 5200C
HPS026
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HP ScanJet 6200C

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- Increases productivity by up to 4 times over comparable scanners.
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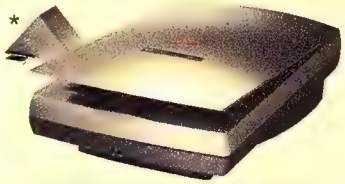
- USB/SCSI capable
- HP PrecisionScan LAN for network sharing
- Intelligent Assistance
- Unlimited enhanced resolution
- Advanced imaging controls
- 35mm slide scanning (6250C only*)



HP ScanJet 6200C
HPS020
$745

HP ScanJet 6250C
HPS021
$939

OmniPage Pro v9.0 Upgrade

The World's Best OCR Just Got Better

OmniPage Pro 9.0, the latest version of the world's best-selling optical character recognition (OCR) software, lets you quickly and easily convert scanned pages into computer-editable documents, more accurately than ever before. Other new features include enhanced integration with Microsoft Word, and multithreading for faster processing.

- **Maximum Zone Flexibility**
  OmniPage Pro 9.0 identifies regions of text and graphics on a page to improve recognition and formatting.
- **Superior Integration**
  Perform all your OCR functions directly from Microsoft Word - and proof your results by comparing them to the original image.
- **Automatic Proofreader**
  Automatically checks your OCR results and displays the original image for comparison. Like a spell checker, it highlights suspicious words and suggests corrections.
- **Easy, One Button OCR**
  With just one click of a button, our AutoOCR Toolbar guides you through the entire OCR process. Or simply let our OCR Wizard do it for you.
- **Retains Original Page Layout**
  OmniPage Pro's enhanced True Page preserves your documents' original "look and feel."
- **Tables and Spreadsheets**
  OmniPage Pro 9.0 automatically detects tables within documents and preserves them as table objects in Word and WordPerfect. And now you can save spreadsheets directly to Excel, 1-2-3 or Quattro Pro with formatting just like the original.
- **Over 99% Accurate**
  Major improvements in our OCR technology mean you can accurately recognise a greater variety of documents, with far fewer errors.
- **Colour**
  For the first time ever, OmniPage Pro lets you scan colour documents and save colour graphics into your word processor.

INCLUDES

PageKeeper
OmniPage Pro 9.0 also comes with PageKeeper Standard - the easiest way to organise and find scanned and electronic documents. If you work with scanned pages, Microsoft Word files, Web pages or photos, PageKeeper is a must!

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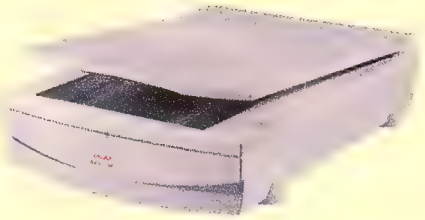
UMAX® Astra 1220 Series



USB	– UMAX Astra 1220U	UMA012 $279
SCSI	– UMAX Astra 1220S	UMA015 $419
Parallel	– UMAX Astra 1220P	UMA014 $199
Optional Transparency Adaptor		UMA021 $299

The ideal scanning solution for the SOHO or Corporate user!

If you're looking for a scanner with speed, quality and reliability, look no further than the Astra 1220 Series. Incorporating UMAX's exclusive Bit Enhancement Technology (BET™), scanned images are given greater clarity, sharpness and colour depth, guaranteeing a better quality image every time!

Features
- 1200x600 dpi optical resolution
- 9600 dpi max. resolution
- 36 bit colour depth (with BET™)
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- Your choice of SCSI, Parallel (PC) or USB connectivity
- Optional Transparency adaptor

Software
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MICROTEK HIGH-TECH SCANNERS

MICROTEK ScanMaker 4

The MICROTEK ScanMaker 4 is 2 scanners in 1

It's both a professional quality flatbed scanner and a transparency scanner using Microtek's patented E.D.I.T. technology! Special film holders are used to scan slides & transparencies directly inside the scanner, thereby eliminating the loss of optical quality caused by glass.

Microtek ScanMaker4 Pro528
$1379

MICROTEK ScanMaker X6

USB Version Now Available

The Microtek ScanMaker X6 offers a sharper image, much higher resolution, superior colour accuracy and much better shadow detail compared to entry level scanners. **A better scanner means you don't waste your time correcting every scan.**

To make sure the X6 offers unbeatable value, an exceptional collection of quality software is offered. This includes Windows software for image editing, OCR (text recognition), document management, , a utility to SCAN to Print/Fax, a large library of backgrounds and stock photography,.

For Windows users, a genuine Adaptec 1505AE SCSI card is supplied which lets you daisy chain other external SCSI devices (e.g. SCSI Zip drive, tape drive, CD writer, slide scanner).

- Higher resolution than HP 6100C!
- 36 bit colour input and processing (1 pass)
- 1, 8, 12, 24 or 36 bit output
- 4 times the definition of entry level scanners
- 1200 x 600 DPI Optical
- 9,600 DPI Interpolated
- 720,000 dot measured per square inch!
- A4 Size
- FlexScan lid
- Zero Reflection Design
- Advanced Image Enhancer
- Great bundled software
- Includes Adaptec 1505AE SCSI
- Tri-linear CCD sensor array
- Dynamic range: 3.2
- 12 months warranty

36

PRO523 Microtek ScanMaker X6 SCSI
$475

Microtek ScanMaker X6 Parallel Pro526
$399

MICROTEK A3 SIZE ScanMaker 9600XL

NEW A3 size 36 Bit colour high resolution scanner.

- Scans 431 x 304mm (a fraction larger than A3 size).
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- Fast single pass scanning.
- Scans true colour, greyscale and line art.
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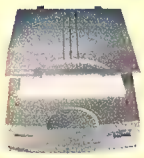
Bundled with professional software including:
- Fractal Painter • Scanwizard Pro • Omnipage LE • Silverfast • Photoshop 4LE

36



Microtek ScanMaker 9600XL Pro517
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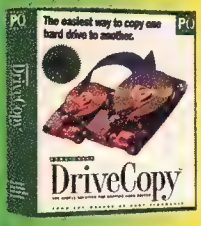

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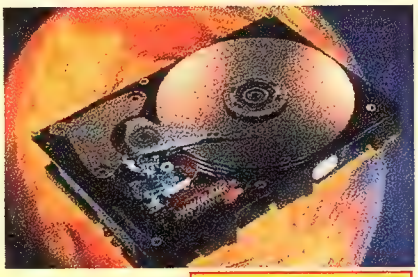

Everything You Need for a Successful and Easy Drive Installation on your Pentium or equivalent PC

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The upgrade pack includes:

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- Frame kit, screws and mounting brackets. Ever gone to upgrade your PC, only to find that you haven't got all the bits you needed? Not with this kit! Everything is included.
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- EACH SEAGATE HARD DRIVE KIT COMES WITH A 3 YEAR WARRANTY, SO YOU CAN BUY WITH CONFIDENCE.

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SEEK/ms	9.0	10.5	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
SPINDLE SPEED	5400RPM	5400RPM	5400RPM	5400RPM	5400RPM	5400RPM
DATA BUFFER	512K	256K	512K	512K	512K	512K
FORM FACTOR	88.9mm	88.9mm	88.9mm	88.9mm	88.9mm	88.9mm
TRANSFER RATE	33.3/66.6ms	33.3/66.6ms	33.3/66.6ms	33.3/66.6ms	33.3/66.6ms	33.3/66.6ms

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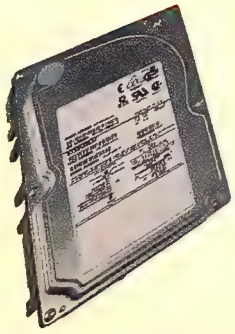
IDE

Drive	Model	Speed	Access Time	Price	Code
Fireball CR 4.3GB	QM304300CR-A	5400rpm	9.5ms	$199	QUA175
Fireball CR 6.4GB	QM306400CR-A	5400rpm	9.5ms	$249	QUA170
Fireball CR 8.4GB	QM308400CR-A	5400rpm	9.5ms	$269	QUA176
Fireball CR 13.0GB	QM313000CR-A	5400rpm	9.5ms	$359	QUA177



SCSI

Drive	Model	Transfer Rate	Access Time	Price	Code
Atlas IV 9.1GB Wide Ultra	QM309100KN-LW	up to 160MB/sec	6.9ms	$799	QUA178
Atlas IV 9.1GB Ultra SCA	QM309100KN-SCA	up to 160MB/sec	6.9ms	$799	QUA179
Atlas IV 18.2GB Wide Ultra	QM318200KN-LW	up to 160MB/sec	6.9ms	$1599	QUA180
Atlas IV 18.2GB Ultra SCA	QM318200KN-SCA	up to 160MB/sec	6.9ms	$1599	QUA181
Atlas IV 36.4GB Wide Ultra	QM336400KN-LW	up to 160MB/sec	7.9ms	$3099	QUA182
Atlas IV 36.4GB Ultra SCA	QM336400KN-SCA	up to 160MB/sec	7.9ms	$3099	QUA183

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, OR PRICING ON HARD DRIVES NOT FEATURED, PLEASE CALL OUR SALES TEAM ON 1300 300 003

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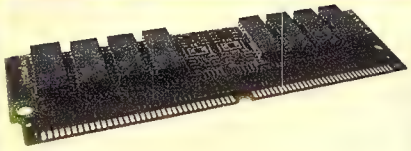

Memory Pricing

PC100 SDRAM DIMM (168 pin)

Size	Access Time	Price	Stock Code
32Mb	7ns	$75	MEM100
64Mb	7ns	$135	MEM101
128Mb	7ns	$299	MEM102

PC100 ECC SDRAM DIMM (168 pin)

Size	Access Time	Price	Stock Code
128Mb	7ns	$379	MEM103

SDRAM DIMM (168 pin)

Size	Access Time	Price	Stock Code
32Mb	10ns	$79	MEM104
64Mb	10ns	$169	MEM105
128Mb	10ns	$299	MEM106

Getting The Right Type of Memory is Important!!

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If you are buying memory for a server with a processor speed over 350MHz, use PC100 ECC SDRAM.

EDO RAM is used for older Pentium machines. Supply of EDO RAM is becoming more and more constrained, and has caused volatility in pricing. Please call our sales team for the latest pricing, or for any advice on your requirements. 1300 300 003.

Memory Prices are Volatile – Call for Latest Prices

intel inside celeron™ PROCESSOR

Celeron

Chip	Stock Code	Price
Intel Celeron 366 128Kb cache Slot 370	INT137	$159
Intel Celeron 400 128Kb cache Slot 370	INT138	$239
Intel Celeron 433 128kb cache Slot 370	INT139	$325

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intel inside pentium® II PROCESSOR

Pentium II

Chip	Stock Code	Price
Intel Pentium II 350 512k cache	INT140	$385
Intel Pentium II 400 512k cache	INT141	$465
Intel Pentium II 450 512k cache	INT142	$595

intel inside pentium® III

Pentium III

Chip	Stock Code	Price
Intel Pentium III 450 512k cache	INT143	$595
Intel Pentium III 500 512k cache	INT144	$1099

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IOM085 .....$25
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Iomega Zip Drive 250 (Parallel) IOM100	Iomega Zip Drive 250 (SCSI) IOM101
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For more information on which drive is right for you, contact our sales team on 1300 300 003

*100MB capacity where 1MB=1million bytes. The capacity reported by your operating system may differ.

Iomega Jaz 2GB (Int) IOM082	Iomega Jaz 2GB (Ext) IOM083	Iomega BUZ IOM080	Iomega Zip100 USB IOM098	Iomega Zip Starter Kit(Parallel) IOM096
$699	$649	$339	$249	$259

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1. Take pictures on your digital camera and when your memory card is full simply remove the flash card and pop it into your Clik!(tm) Mobile Drive Flash Memory Reader.
2. The Clik! Mobile Drive quickly downloads your photos to a Clik! disk.
3. The Clik! Desktop Docking Station makes getting pictures into your PC easy and fast. And the Clik! software makes it easy to view, organise and print your photos.
4. Just place the drive in the dock and pictures can be downloaded from the Clik! disk in a snap. The Clik! Desktop Docking Station also acts as the recharger for your battery pack.
5. Clik! disk, the 40MB** go-anywhere storage, gives you the world.

Includes:

Clik! Mobile Drive. Weighing less than 200 grams, the mobile drive is the connection between your digital camera and 40MB** Clik! disks.

Clik! Flash Memory Reader. Accepts CompactFlash or SmartMedia memory cards from most brands of digital cameras. Connects to your Clik! Mobile Drive and allows you to download the pictures on your flash card to your mobile drive in seconds.

Clik! Disk. The two-inch by two-inch Clik! disk holds 40MB** of data, or up to 40 high-resolution photos or hundreds of compressed images. Use them as your negatives.

Rechargeable Battery. The nickel-metal hydride (NiMH) battery snaps right on to your mobile Clik! drive and has enough power for lots of downloads of your camera's memory.

Desktop Docking Station. Simply connect the dock to your parallel port, place the Clik! Mobile Drive in the dock and you can quickly transfer data from the Clik! disk to your desktop machine or vice versa. Also serves as the recharging station.

Parallel Port Interface. Makes installation fast and easy.

Iomega Clik! Drive for Digital Cameras
IOM105
$479

Iomega Clik! Disks 2 Pack IOM106	Iomega Clik! Drive Plus IOM116	Iomega Clik! Disks 10 Pack IOM107	NEW Iomega Clik! PC Card Drive
$65	$539	$189	$CALL FOR DETAILS

** 40MB capacity where 1MB = 1 million bytes. The capacity reported by your operating system may vary.

Clik! Drive Plus is designed for users with both digital cameras and mobile computer needs. Bundle includes Clik! Mobile Drive, NiMH Rechargeable Battery, Flash Memory Reader, PC Card Interface, Parallel Port Interface, Universal Power Supply, 40MB Clik! Disk, Clik! Software CD-ROM and Clik! Carrying Case.

ANNOUNCING

New Clik! PC Card Drive offers a great mobile storage solution for notebooks at an affordable price. Bundle includes Clik! Mobile Drive and Case, Clik! PC Card Interface, NiMH Rechargeable Battery, 40MB Clik! Disk and Case, Desktop Docking Station, Parallel Port Interface/Power Cord, and CD Rom Operating Software & User's Manual.

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CD-Writer Plus 7510e

HEWLETT PACKARD Expanding Possibilities

Easy Installation 6x 2x 2x

FREE Software bundle valued at $500

- Easy installation, plugs straight into your parallel port, easily transferred between computers.
- Create your own music CD's that can be played in any CD audio player. ACID Music Creator.
- Automatically back-up and index your files - fast with HP Simple Trax 2.0.
- Adaptec Direct CD & Easy CD Creator makes it easy to write data, photo, audio and video files to a CD.
- HP Disaster Recovery quickly and easily restores your hard drive files and operating system in minutes.
- HP Fast Format writes or formats CD-RW's in less than 5 minutes.
- Incudes one free blank CD and CD-RW.

HEWLETT-PACKARD SureStore INFORMATION STORAGE

HPP045

$649

CD-Writer Plus 8200i

HEWLETT PACKARD Expanding Possibilities

The fastest, easiest way to make your own CDs 24x 4x 4x

FREE Software bundle valued at $300

- The perfect tool to develop your own multi-media presentations, projects and more. Get thousands of images, clipart and photos to help you create distinctive and creative presentations with Broderbund Multimedia Organiser.
- CD Labeler comes complete with the kit that allows you to label your jewel case.
- Automatically back up and index your files to CD and find them even faster, even if you cant remember the file names with HP Simple Trax.
- Quickly and easily restore your hard drive files and operating system with HP Disaster Recovery.
- Write to CD-RW in less than 5 minutes with HP Fast Format - save hours of formatting time.
- Drag and drop - use like a floppy.

HEWLETT-PACKARD SureStore INFORMATION STORAGE

For a limited time, every HP cd-writer plus comes with a free CD Wallet that holds 20 cds!

HPP044

$649

Sony 24x4x4x CD Rewriter Kit

Another great deal for July

Get the Sony CRX100 Rewriter Kit for just $629! This kit contains everything you need to get you up and running, including:

THIS IS AN INCREDIBLE OFFER

- Tray load drive
- 1 x Sony CD-R disc
- 1 x Sony CD-RW disc
- CD authoring software
- Audio cable
- User guide

A blistering 24x read speed coupled with a 4x write once speed and 4x rewrite speed makes this the total CD/CD-R/CD-RW solution.

NOW

SONY45

$629

Acer 6x2x2x CD Rewriter

This Acer 6x read, 2x write, 2x rewrite has won many awards from magazines around the world. It is a low priced, high performance, high value cd writer. Supporting various recording formats, nowhere else will you find the same excellent quality for the same great price. The kit includes the drive and CD authoring software. Another blockbuster from International Software Warehouse!

LIMITED STOCKS

OFF007

$499

Kodak CD-R Discs 52.70 each

Traxdata/ Princo CD-RW Discs

50.50 each

Bulk pricing (100 or more) available. Call our sales team for details.

SHORT DELIVERY

Full range of delivery options;
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*where applicable

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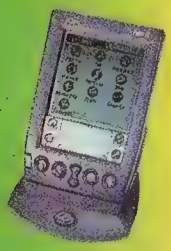
3COM PALM III



Stay organised, wherever you go! The 3COM Palm III is the latest version of the award winning range of personal organisers from 3COM. Weighing in at an amazing 126 grams (approx 160 grams including the batteries) and measuring 12cm by 8cm by 2cm, the Palm III can:

- Store 6000 addresses
- 5 years of appointments
- 1500 to do items
- 1500 memos
- 200 emails

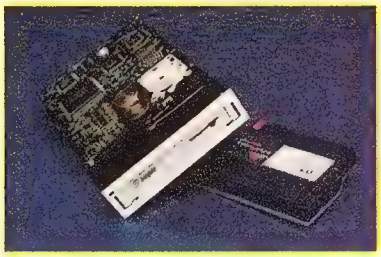
It includes an address book, date book, to do list, memo pad, expense report templates, calculator, security options and some bonus games.

USR051

$599

We aim to stock at least 95% of ALL the items we sell

Seagate Tape Backup Units



TRAVAN 4 - 8Gb

Features hardware compression and read while write. Backs up to 60Mb per minute*. The unit installs easily, and comes with a 2 year guarantee. The kit also includes Seagate Backup Exec and a free bonus tape to get you started.

*All transfer speeds assume 2:1 compression.

Internal IDE Kit	Internal SCSI Kit	External SCSI Kit	5 pack of Travan tapes
SEA140	SEA141	SEA142	SEA155
$489	$549	$975	$259

DAT 12 - 24Gb

Ideal for network backup. This SCSI interface drive features proven technology for premium capacity and performance. Backs up at a rate of 2.2Mb per second*. Comes with a three year warranty.

Internal SCSI Kit	External SCSI Kit
SEA145	SEA178
$2229	$2489

*All transfer speeds assume 2:1 compression.

AIT 25 - 50Gb

*All transfer speeds assume 2:1 compression.

This Advanced Intelligent Tape unit backs up at the rate of 6Mb per second*. Featuring advanced metal evaporated tape (AME) memory in the cassette, this drive gives significantly faster loading and access times. And the self cleaning mechanism ensures high reliability.

Internal Fast Wide SCSI Drive	External Fast Wide SCSI Drive	50Gb AIT tape
SEA146	SEA147	SEA154
$4799	$5479	$185

SEAGATE BACKUP SOFTWARE

WORKSTATION

Seagate Backup Exec v3
SEA109 ..... $125

Seagate Backup Exec v3 Upgrade SEA156.... $48

NT SERVER

Seagate Backup v7.2 NT Single Server
SEA101 ..... $865

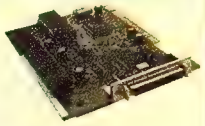
Seagate Backup v7.2 NT Single Server Upgrade
SEA175 ..... $519

Seagate Backup v7.2 NT Multi Server
SEA041 ..... $1765

Call for latest pricing on Seagate Backup for SBS and Novell Netware

adaptec

We move the information that moves your world!



Adaptec's range of SCSI Controller Cards range from entry level non bootable ISA adaptors to multi-channel PCI Ultra 2Wide adapters and RAID Controllers.

Adaptec SCSI Adapters	Bus Type	Transfer Method	Floppy Support	BIOS	No of devices supported	Device Protocol	Peripheral Support	SCSI Transfer Rate/sec	O/S Support	Stock Code	Price
AVA1505A KIT	ISA	PIO	No	No	Up to 7	SCSI 1,2	CD-ROM	Up to 5MB All Standard	Dos/Win & Win 95 -NT	ADA055	$99
AHA1520B KIT †	ISA	PIO	No	Yes	Up to 7	SCSI 1,2, Fast SCSI	SCSI All Standard	Up to 10MB	All OS**	ADA040	$239
AHA1542CP KIT †	ISA	DMA	Yes	Yes	Up to 7	SCSI 1,2, Fast SCSI	SCSI	Up to 10MB	All OS**	ADA056	$569
AHA2940PCI	PCI	DMA	No	Yes	Up to 7	SCSI 1,2, Fast SCSI	SCSI All Standard	Up to 10MB	All OS**	ADA057	$419
AHA2940U KIT †	PCI	DMA	No	Yes	Up to 7	SCSI 1,2, Fast SCSI Ultra	SCSI All Standard	Up to 20MB	All OS**	ADA058	$499

** O/S Support: DOS(3.3 & up), Win 3.1/95, SCO Unix, Solaris Unix, UnixWare, NetWare(3.1,3.11,3.12, & up), Windows NT(3.1,3.5,4.0) & O/S/2(2.0, 2.1)

† Also available as card only.

Please call for Adaptec's full range of SCSI cards

Easy CD Creator

- Send video postcards on CD that automatically play on any PC - no special software is required.
- Share photo albums on CD that can be viewed on any PC.
- Backup important files such as spreadsheets and tax records
- Works with recordable or rewriteable CDs.

PACKAGE INCLUDES: Easy CD Creator Deluxe Edition, CD Spin Doctor, PhotoRelay, Jewel Case Creator, CD Copier, Video CD Creator, Picture CD Creator, 25 Photo CD Pictures, Cable to connect PC to stereo, Users guide.

ADA044

$149

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NOW AVAILABLE ON EARTH !!!

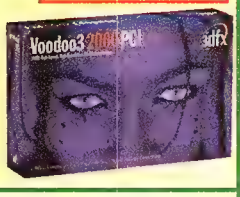
Voodoo3 2000

From 3Dfx Interactive, the architect of the 3D revolution, comes a new dimension of high resolution gaming. A snap to install, the Voodoo3 2000 replaces tired, old 2D cards in just a matter of minutes. Fusing the worlds fastest 2D with a dual 32-bit pipeline, the Voodoo3 2000 pumps out over 100 billion operation per second.

- 143 Megapixels/second
- 286 Megatexels/second peak fill rate
- 6 million polygons/second peak processing
- 2.29GB/second peak bandwidth
- Patented Single-pass multi-texturing
- 128-bit 2D, 3D and Video accelerator
- Voodoo3 graphics processor
- 16MB high-speed SDRAM memory
- AGP 2x
- MPEG-1, 2 playback
- 300MHz RAMDAC

Voodoo3 2000 AGP
VOO004
$349

Voodoo3 2000 PCI
VOO003
$349



Voodoo3 3000

Clocking in at over 100 billion operations per second, the Voodoo3 3000 pushes the limits of ultra high-resolution gaming. Delivering liquid smooth frame rtes of rates of over 60 frames per second, the Voodoo3 3000 combines the worlds fastest 2D with a dual 32-bit pipeline to provide a mind-altering gaming experience.

- 66 Megapixels/second
- 333 Megatexels/second peak fill rate
- 7 million polygons/second peak processing
- 2.66GB/second peak bandwidth
- Patented Single-pass multi-texturing
- 128-bit 2D, 3D and Video accelerator
- Voodoo3 graphics processor
- 16MB high-speed SDRAM memory
- AGP 2x
- MPEG-1, 2 playback
- 350MHz RAMDAC

Voodoo3 3000 AGP
VOO001
$449

Voodoo3 3500

Voodoo3 3500 AGP

- 16MB SGRAM
- 183MHz Core Clock Speed
- 8 Million Triangles/sec
- 366 Megatexels/sec.
- Digital Flat Panel Support
- Supports DirectX, Glide and OpenGL
- Supports resolutions up to 2048x1536
- Single Pass, Single Cycle Trilinear MIP-Mapping
- Full 128-Bit 2D accelerator
- 350 MHz RAMDAC
- TV/S-Video out
- DVD Hardware Assist
- Alpha-Blending
- Single Pass, Single Cycle Bump Mapping
- Patented Multi-Texturing
- Programmable Fog Tables
- Sub-Pixel and Sub-Texel Correction
- Gouraud Shading

Voodoo3 3500 AGP
VOO002
$679

SoundBlaster Live! Value

Interested in a powerful audio/gaming experience? With the Sound Blaster Live! Value, the home audio user, gamer or multimedia enthusiast can hear Hollywood-quality audio and amazing special effects on any audio source.

FULL RETAIL PRODUCT

CRE053
$259

3D Blaster Banshee 16MB PCI & AGP

Full Retail Product

Awesome resolutions, rock solid refresh rates and stunning visual quality. Complete 2D/3D graphics solution based on the Voodoo Banshee chipset. With a full 128 bit graphics core and 16Mb of high speed SDRAM, you can see why the 3D Blaster Banshee is one of the most popular cards for graphic intensive applications and games.

3D BANSHEE AGP
CRE052
$229

3D BANSHEE PCI
CRE051
$229

ATI Rage Fury 32Mb AGP

The new ATI Rage fury is powered by ATI's Rage 128 graphics technology, with an astounding 32Mb of memory.

32Mb

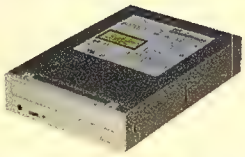
ATI030
$399

PC-DVD Encore 5x
CRE054
$569

GraphicsBlaster Riva TNT PCI 16Mb (AGP)
CRE049
$235

GraphicsBlaster Riva TNT PCI 16Mb (PCI)
CRE055
$235

40x CD-ROM Drive



Unbelievable. A blistering 40x CD drive (6000Kb/sec data transfer rate) for under $100! This drive has a multi read function - it can read CD-RW media as well. Fantastic value at only $99.

OFF006
$99

** Actual Product may differ from illustration.*

Sony CD ReWriter

Supporting 24x read, 4x write and 4x re write speeds, this kit contains everything you need to get up and running. Contains the drive, authoring software, a blank CD-R and CD-RW plus a simple step by step installation guide.

SONY45
$629

6x DVD Drive

Experience tomorrows' technology today with this 6x DVD ROM drive. Supporting DVD, CD (up to 32x), CD-R and CD-RW, you can use this drive to watch the latest movies, play the latest games or listen to your music CDs. For technical specs please check out our website at www.iswh.com.au

OFF008
$399

** Actual Product may vary from illustration shown.*

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Now you can produce a Video Family Album quickly & easily using just your camcorder & VCR. Contains easy to follow handbooks & set up guides, script editor, video label printer plus a bonus instructional video & CD-ROM. This motion picture album is a must for all camcorder owners.

$69.95
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For professional video editing, take a look at the Studio 400 on p22

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Accelerate your world with Diamond

Sonic Impact S90

Unleash True Audio Fidelity in Your Multimedia PC!

Hear it all! From your favourite acoustic melody to the pulsating rhythms of heavy metal. The swish of a golf club to the screech of tires racing down the track. Diamond Multimedia's Sonic Impact S90 PCI audio card takes you there with a full spectrum of rich, dynamic sounds for all your multimedia, music, Internet, and gaming audio.

Key Features:
- Hot positional 3D audio with Aureal Vortex technology
- Accelerates A3D, DirectSound3D & DirectSound
- Rich, brilliant sound with 64-voice DLS wavetable
- Perfect for Windows or DOS games or software
- Features MP3 tools for cutting-edge Internet audio

DIA049
$55

* Box Shown for Illustration purposes Only

Diamond Monster Sound MX300

The Ultimate 3D Audio Experience

Do you want heart-pounding, adrenaline-rushing sound that has you looking over your shoulder? Diamond's Monster Sound MX300 is your ticket to fully-immersive positional 3D audio, pinpointing every individual sound in 3D space and dunking you in the middle of the action for an incredibly realistic gaming experience.

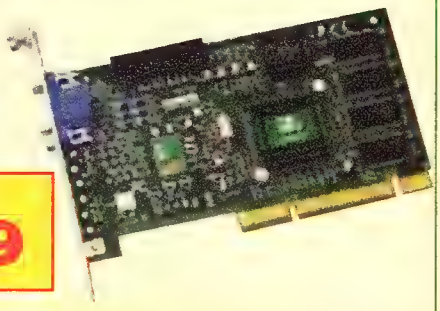
Key Features:
- Powered by Aureal Vortex-2 PCI audio accelerator
- Monstrous positional 3D audio - A3D 2.0 & DirectSound3D
- Studio-quality 320-voice DLS wavetable synthesizer
- Up to 4 speakers for a phenomenal gaming experience
- Includes DVD with complete Dolby Digital (AC-3) support
- Features MP3 tools for revolutionary digital Internet audio

DIA050
$149

* Box Shown for Illustration purposes Only

The SpeedStar A50

The SpeedStar from Diamond truly is the value/performance graphics accelerator for today's budget-conscious PC desktop market.



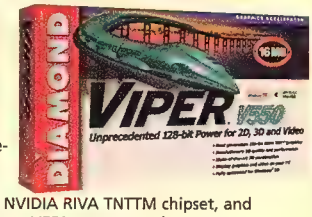
DIA051
$109

Key Features:
- Outstanding 3D with AGP 2X support for rich, razor-sharp gaming and smooth-running 3D business applications
- Fast, full-colour 2D performance with resolution support up to 1600x1200, and high, ergonomic refresh rates to 200Hz
- 8MB of powerful SDRAM and 200 MHz RAMDAC for high monitor resolutions
- Superior video playback - Awesome features for high-end, TV-quality video
- Optimised drivers for full compatibility with Windows 95/98 and Windows NT4.0

LIMITED STOCKS

ViperV550

Unprecedented 128-bit Power for 2D, 3D and Video!



Viper V550 from Diamond features unprecedented 128-bit power for state-of-the-art 2D business graphics and stunning 3D quality with high-speed game play. Based on the revolutionary NVIDIA RIVA TNTTM chipset, and fully optimized for Windows 98, the Viper V550 represents the next generation in high performance graphics acceleration. Viper offers extensive multimedia features, and full support for Direct3D and OpenGL.

Key Features:
- TwiN Texel engine with true single-pass multitexturing for exquisite 3D rendering
- Revolutionary 3D quality and performance for gaming and business applications
- State-of-the-art 2D acceleration with 16MB RAM and 250MHz DAC for true colour support up to 1920x1200
- Display graphics and video on your TV (retail version only)
- Available in PCI and AGP 2X

* Box Shown for Illustration purposes Only

Diamond Viper V550 PCI
DIA046
$229

Diamond Viper V550 AGP
DIA048
$229

Rio PMP300

Internet Music in the Palm of Your Hand!

Diamond's Rio PMP300 is the first portable MP3 music player that stores up to 60 minutes of digital-quality sound. It's smaller than an audio cassette and has no moving parts, so it never skips. Powered by a single AA battery, Rio provides up to 12 hours of continuous music playback. Goodnoise, the premier source on the net for high-quality, downloadable music, is located at www.goodnoise.com.

Key Features:
- Palm size for easy portability
- Supports MP3 compression
- 32MB built-in flash memory
- Expandable playback time with removable flash cards
- Skip free - no moving parts
- MusicMatch Jukebox Limited Edition software for converting CD's to an MP3 format
- CD Music Sampler

Diamond Rio PMP 300
DIA047
$399

Monster Fusion

Voodoo 3D Gaming & Blistering 2D Speed!

Diamond's new Monster Fusion takes edge-of-your-seat Voodoo 3D gaming performance and fuses it with high-speed 2D acceleration - all on a single card. Based on ground breaking 3Dfx technology, Monster Fusion brings you outrageous 60 frames per second game play, state-of-the art 3D features, and complete game support based on the most popular APIs. Your 2D presentation and Web graphics will fly on the screen in vivid color at resolutions up to 1900x1200.

Key Features:
- 3Dfx Voodoo Banshee technology
- Fully integrated 3D and 2D graphics with 16MB memory
- True 128-bit Windows acceleration
- Outrageous 3D gaming performance at 60 fps
- Awesome game support: Glide, Direct3D and MiniGL
- Available in PCI and AGP models

Diamond Monster Fusion AGP
DIA035
$199

Diamond Monster Fusion PCI
DIA036
$199

* Box shown for illustration purposes only

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COMPRO™ The Way To Go

PLUG N SNAP DIGITAL VIDEO CAMERA

COMPRO PS39 Digital Video Camera

Instant Picture & Video For Your Desktop!

COMPRO PS39 Digital Video Camera offers great convenience of plug and snap on any Windows PC or notebook. Simply connect the camera to the printer port, a quick software installation and you are ready to take a brilliant picture, or video conference at life like frame rates.

Superior features:

- 40 frames per second (video images)
- 1280 x 960 resolution at 16.8 million true colour still images
- Superior image quality without compression
- Adjustable focus Lens (10mm to Infinity)
- Night vision capability
- Plug and Snap on all PC and note-book printer ports
- Includes PS2/AT Keyboard Adaptor, removable tilt and swivel base assembly, user manual

BONUS

- 3D/EYE TriSpectives 1.0 Asymetrix
- Digital Video Producer 4.0
- 3D F/X 2.0
- COMPEL 2.0
- Web 3D
- WebPublisher
- COMPRO Microphone

MICROSOFT WINDOWS COMPATIBLE

PC Multimedia PC

Great for:

- Personalised greeting card and t-shirt transfer
- Picture & Video E-mail
- Video Conferencing
- Internet Home Page creation
- Jazz up reports/presentations
- Picture ID
- Digital photo album and more...

Comes with CD containing:

- SnapShot Image Capturing Software
- AVI Software Driver
- TWAIN Software Driver
- Microsoft NetMeeting 2.0 Video Conferencing Software
- ULEAD Video Studio Software

COMPRO PS39 Digital Video Camera
CMP005
$329

Capview

Portable external USB Video Capture, Conferencing and Editing

Capture video from any camera, VCR, TV or video input device and explore what you can do on a PC using the latest video editing softare. Solutions for both the Novice or professional users.

Enjoy video conferencing face-to-face with your family, colleagues or friends. Over the internet it will only cost you less than $1 an hour! You can even record and send Video e-mail messages.

Features:

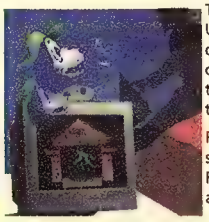
- Portable external Plug-N-Play USB device
- Video capture up to 30fps@ 352x288 and 640x480 single frame
- TWAIN compatible interface
- Video Conferencing standards H323,H263
- Includes ULead Video Studio 3.0 editing software.

ASS022
$139

Robo Snoop

RoboCam USB Digital Camera Plus PC Snoop

Video Conferencing, Personal Surveillance/Receptionist & Message Recorder Combined. "Robo Snoop" will allow users the option to perform video conferencing, surveillance, video capture, receptionist duties & message recordings, all for a great price.



The RoboCam USB Camera delivers crystal clear pictures with the latest CMOS 300K technology.

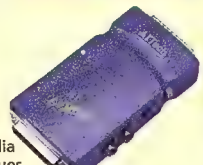
PC Snoop integrates Stealth surveillance & Video Message Recording for Home & Office applications.

NOW WITH FREE INTERNET PHONE VALUED AT $69

ASS017
$275

AI Gotcha 2

Portable Video Capture



Take snapshots of your favourite imges from Camcorder, VCR or other Video source in 16.7 million colours into your PC. You can use photos for multimedia presenations, web page publishing, disk-based catalogues, personal photo albums, image database, digital greeting cards, newsletters, e-mails and much more. This is a simple plug-in (parallel port) and play device providing a high quality portable capture solution. By connecting to a video source, whether composite of Y/C, an extremely high quality image can be captured (1600x1200dpi) into any of the supported graphic file formats.

Features:

- AI Gotcha! Real-time image capture software
- Internet audio postcard
- Parallel port extension cable
- AI Gotcha hardware (NTSC/PAL)
- Video Craft, Multi-Media suite of special effects.
- Pass through printer connections
- *for a limited time only*

ASS011
$169

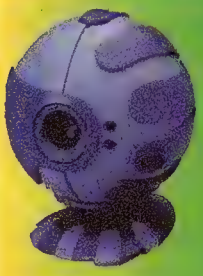
Pocket Scan Converter (PSC 1106)

Your business presentations on the big screen

Using the Pocket Scan Converter in conjunction with your notebook computer (or PC), any presenation can be displayed on a TV or recorded onto video tape, making the Pocket Scan Converter ideal for business, education and training applications. This compact device simply plugs into your notebook/PC and the other end into a TV/Video to put your presentation onto the big screeen. And when the work is done, play computer games on your TV. Designed with flicker reduction circuitry and VHS support, the Pocket Scan Converter produces extremely vivid, high quality images with up to 16.8 million colours

- for a limited time only

ASS001
$189



RoboCAM USB Digital Camera

- Crystal clear picture
- Plug & play (USB) interface for easy installation
- Capture up to 30fps (352 x 288 pixels) full motion video
- Support single frame snapshot up to 640x480 pixels
- Low power consumption idea for notebook computer
- Support TWAIN interface for image editing applications
- No video capture card or power acapter necessary

ASS023
$199

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Full range of delivery options;
Same day, Sydney
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*where applicable

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Digital Camera for only $299

- 2MB Smartmedia Memory Card
- Only 122 grams
- 640 x 480 pixels
- Built in Flash

HAN002

$299

We aim to stock at least 95% of ALL the items we sell

TURN ORDINARY VIDEOS INTO EXTRAORDINARY VIDEOS WITH

Studio 400 & Studio DC10 Plus

Whether you want to edit videos of the kids and want a simple plug and play editor for your home PC, or you're putting together a corporate presentation or editing video for your web site, there is a Pinnacle Studio editing product for you

Both the Studio 400 and Studio DC10 Plus feature:

- Pinnacle's award winning Studio editing software which offers users simple drag and drop editing, plus 100s of special effects.
- TypeDeko titling software for giving your productions professional looking titles.
- SmartSound Studio software for generating background music and for adding narration or a CD soundtrack to your movies.
- Microsoft Direct Show technology for instantly previewing your movie.
- The ability to output AVI files for the internet.
- Microsoft Net Meeting software for video conferencing.
- Hot Keys unlimited free technical support and 60-day money back guarantee.

RECOMMENDED PC REQUIREMENTS

	Studio 400	Studio DC10 Plus
Processor	P133	P233 or Celeron 300A
Hard Drive	2GB	8GB
RAM	16MB	64MB
SCSI Drive	No	Yes*
Operating System	Win95/98	Win95/98

* Required for capture rates above 3MB/Sec.

WHICH STUDIO PRODUCT IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

	Studio 400	Studio DC10 Plus
Internal/External	External	Internal
Disk Space (1/2 hr vid)	75MB-150MB	1.5GB-10GB
Max Resolution Capture	160x120	760x576
	15 fields/sec	50 fields/sec
Output	720x586	768x576
	50 fields/sec	50 fields/sec
Import AVI files	No	Yes

Note: Studio DC10 Plus replaces: Miro DC10, Miro DC20, and Miro DRX

As Seen on Australia's Funniest Home Video Show

Studio 400
NIT013
$669

Studio DC10 Plus
PIN024
$619

Hauppauge!®

Bring TV To Your PC With WinTV!

WinTV-Primio, WinTV-PCI and WinTV-Radio PCI Boards give you live video-in-a-window!

TV Just Got Better!

Hauppauge's WinTV Boards are single slot PCI cards with 125-channel TV-tuners. The TV-source can be from aerial or cable set top box TV. With the external audio/video inputs, you can also connect to a satellite receiver or VCR, camcorder or video camera. The WinTV Boards also extract Teletext data from the TV signal, and include VTPlus, the Professional Teletext software. These PCI boards connect to your cable TV or to a TV antenna, and display live TV in a resizable window. They do this by digitising the live video (from either the built-in 125-channel cable TV tuner or the external video- input source) using high quality 4:2:2 video sampling. The digitised video is sent over the PCI bus into the memory of a VGA display adapter, a technique which makes the WinTV PCI boards easy to install and gives a great looking TV picture!

The WinTV-Primio, WinTV-PCI and WinTV-Radio support Intercast data reception and Teletext data reception. Included is our VTPlus software, for multiple teletext page display and DDE (dynamic data exchange). While live video is being displayed, these boards can also extract either Intercast data (Channel 7 in Sydney and Melbourne) or teletext data from the TV signal.

The WinTV PCI boards have these great features:

- Live TV-in-a-window on VGA monitors from 640 x 480 to 1600 x 1200 pixels in up to 16 million colors- unique to WinTV.
- Built-in cable ready TV tuner: a 125-channel TV tuner with automatic channel scan.
- Resize the WinTV window from icon size to full screen (or any size in between!).
- Auxiliary audio/video input connects to video cameras, VCR's and camcorders.
- Audio output can go to your sound card's Line-In connector or to self-powered speakers.
- Capture professional quality 24-bit images with 4:2:2 digitizing. Image save formats supported: TIFF, BMP, PCX, GIF, TGA plus compressed JPEG in color or black/white at 8, 16 and 24-bits.
- Videoconference over the Internet! The WinTV PCI's video digitizer is compatible with your favorite conferencing package such as: Microsoft NetMeeting, CU-SeeMe, Smith Micro's AudioVision, VDOnet, Connectix VideoPhone, Vocaltec's IPhone, Vivo and lots more. Simply add a video camera and one of these software packages to video conference over the phone lines or the internet.
- Create high impact presentations with 320x240 AVI clip capture with real time preview. Creates high quality AVI video's in a YUV format.

* May not be compatible with all graphics cards, please check compatibility with our sales consultants *

WinTV-Primio (with PAL B/G Tuner and Television) HAU001	WinTV-PCI (with PAL B/G Tuner, Teletext decoder, full Stereo Sound) HAU002	WinTV-Radio (with PAL B/G Tuner and Teletext, FM Radio, Intercast) HAU003
$199	**$269**	**$349**

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UMAX® Maxvision B5

- 15 inch FST
- 0.28mm dot pitch
- Non glare
- 1280 x 1024 @ 70Hz max NI

UMA016 **$349**

UMAX® Maxvision B7

- 17 inch FST 0.27mm dot pitch
- Non glare
- 1280 x 1024 @ 70Hz Max NI

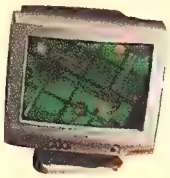
UMA017 **$689**

UMAX® Maxvision B7 Plus

- 17 inch FST
- 0.25mm dot pitch
- Non glare dark glass
- 1600 x 1200 @ 87Hz Max NI
- Standby power switch

UMA018 **$995**

Daewoo 14 inch Monitor

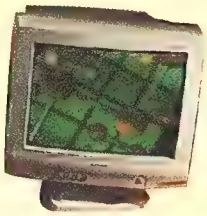


- 1431X Colour digital monitor
- 1024 x 768 resolution NI
- 0.28mm dot pitch
- non glare screen
- 3 year warranty

*Actual Products may vary from illustrations shown

DAE002 **$249**

Daewoo 15 inch Monitor

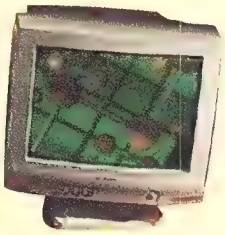


- 518B FST Colour digital monitor
- 1280 x 1024 resolution (at 60Hz)
- 0.28mm dot pitch,
- non glare anti static screen
- 20 mode memory
- 3 year warranty

*Actual Products may vary from illustrations shown

DAE003 **$299**

Daewoo 17 inch Monitor



- 1710B FST Colour digital monitor
- 1280 x 1024 resolution (at 60Hz)
- 0.28mm dot pitch,
- non glare anti static screen
- 20 mode memory
- 3 year warranty

*Actual Products may vary from illustrations shown

DAE004 **$599**

Sony CPD-100ES

This entry level 15" computer display (14" VIS) provides features normally found on high-end Sony Computer displays, including:

- The crispness of Sony's legendary Trinitron CRT technology
- Easy-to -use on-screen controls for brightness/contrast/colour etc
- Vertically flat short-neck CRT design
- Digital Multiscan Technology supports multiple PC andMac resolutions up to 1280 x 1024 @ 60Hz

SONY46 **$499**

Sony CPD-L150 TFT

Uniquely designed for those environments where desktop space is valuable. With only a 6.5" depth and weighing in at 11.7 lbs., the L150 takes up 60% less desk space than a standard 17" CRT based display.

- Removable tilt base provides optional arm or wall mounting capability
- Digital FlexRes Technology - Sony's exclusive chipset design provides a crisp, clear full screen image regardless of resolution
- Bright Picture, Sharp Images - 300:1 contrast ratio, 200cd/m2 luminance and a tight 0.297mm dot pitch
- Digital Multiscan Technology - Wide horizontal scan range of 30-70kHz provides accurate resolutions from 640 x 480 up to 1024 x 768 @ 85Hz
- Full Color - Displays over 16 million colors
- Designed For Windows NT and Windows 98
- Macintosh compatible
- MPR II approved

SONY47 **$3149**

Panasonic 15" TFT LCD Display Monitor with Multimedia

The new PanaFlat LC50S is an amazing achievement. Its space-saving, streamlined design measures less than 3" deep, but gives you a resolution and colour reproduction comparable to your typical CRT monitor.

- New Multimedia Bass Reflex Speakers and built in Microphone
- New USB port connectors
- Wide Display area comparable to conventional 17" CRT monitors.
- Plug in compatible with CRT monitors
- Automatic Frequency Selection
- Automatic Pixel Converter for full screen display at all resolutionst
- New A-Agras Coat for sharper images
- Advanced On Screen Display (OSD)
- High 1024 x 768 Resolution at 75Hz
- High resolution pixel pitch of 0.2975mm
- Windows 95/98 Plug & Play
- 3 Year RTB Warranty

PAN003 **$2169**

56K & V.90 MODEM

- Headset with Microphone
- Webstats Software worth $50
- Internet Starter Kits with 50 to 100 hrs free Internet time
- Dual 56K Flex and V.90
- 5 Years Warranty

- Free Technical Support

ABC003 **$99**

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Xircom RealPort Integrated PC Card Family

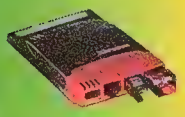
Flexible solutions for virtually any mobile communications environment

- Innovative built-in connector system eliminates external cables
- Full-featured 16-bit and 32-bit PC cards provide 10Mbps and 100Mbps Ethernet, high-speed 56K modem and telephone handset pass-thru connections.
- GlobalACCESS modem and ISDN capabilities, wireless data support for GSM and AMPS cellular networks

XIR063 RealPort Ethernet 10/100 ..... **$275**

XIR064 RealPort Modem 56 ..... **$319**

XIR048 RealPort Ethernet 10/100 + Modem 56 ..... **$629**



FREE GIFT

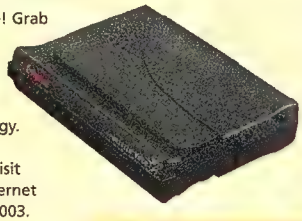
Make sure to ask for your gift when ordering

3Com More connected.

GET CONNECTED TO THE NET!

3COM U.S. Robotics 56K* Voice Faxmodem

Includes V.90 ITU 56K standard and x2 technology



Experience the Internet like never before! Grab graphics-rich Web pages, e-mail, huge data files, real-time sound and video faster, play intense games, get more done online. Compatible with both the V.90 ITU 56K standard and x2™ technology. Includes a CD-ROM jam-packed with great software for work and play. Visit www.3com.com/56k for a compatible Internet provider near you or call us on 1300 300 003.

Key Benefits:

- Number 1 selling modem in the world
- Brings you great Web sites faster
- Software upgradable for future enhancements

USR104 **$219**

3COM U.S. Robotics 56K* Faxmodem

Includes V.90 ITU 56K standard and x2™ technology

Experience the Internet like never before! Grab Web pages, e-mail, data files, multimedia and games faster, get more done online! Compatible with V.90 standard and x2™ technology.

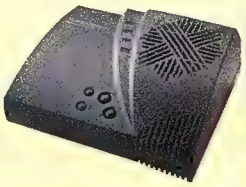
*Can receive at up to 56 Kbps, send at up to 31.2 Kbps. Due to FCC regulations, receiving speeds limited to 53 Kbps. Actual speeds may vary. Requires compatible phone line and server equipment.

Product may differ from that illustrated.

3CO054 **$189**

3Com U.S Robotics 56K * External Professional Message Modem

3Com's new range of 56Kbps V.90 standard desktop modems - the 3Com U.S. Robotics 56K V.90 External Professional Message Modem and 3Com U.S. Robotics 56K V.90 External Message Modem - enable users to meet all of their data, voice and message management needs with a single product, guaranteed to provide an enhanced and productive Internet experience.



Features:

- Faster Internet access
- Caller ID
- One-button access to voice messages
- Remote retrieval of voice messages through a dial-up connection
- Built-in high quality speakerphone
- V.80 (video conferencing) capable
- Easier installation and use
- Software upgradeable for future enhancements
- Backed by a Lifetime Limited Warranty
- Valued-added Connections CD-ROM Software

USR105 **$299**

3Com U.S Robotics 56K* External Message Modem

Features:

- Faster Internet access
- Remote retrieval of voice messages through a dial-up connection
- Software upgradeable for future enhancements
- Backed by a Lifetime Limited Warranty
- Valued-added Connections CD-ROM Software
- Easier installation and use

USR106 **$249**

DIAMOND VOICE 56

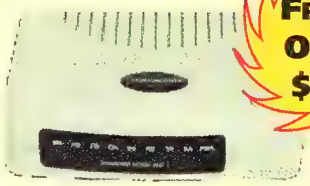
Data, Voice & Fax Modem

Diamond Voice 56K* modems are an ideal choice for all internet, voice, data and fax applications. Currently available in external and internal (OEM) versions, they provide internet download speeds of up to 56 Kbps* using the proprietary Rockwell K56flex standard.

The modems are flash memory upgradable to the recently ratified ITU-T V.90 standard via an easy to use Update Wizard.

Cheyenne Bitware communications software for Windows 3.x, 95 and 98 is included with each modem, allowing it to act as a fax machine, an answering machine and a data communications terminal. Faxing and voice messaging is made easy using Cheyenne Bitware and the modem's voice capabilities. A convenient stereo multimedia headset with an attached microphone is also included providing hands-free operation of the PC while telephone calls are made or received answering machine messages are reviewed.

Diamond Voice modems are also backed by a 5-year warranty and a toll-free Technical Support number, 1800-640-667.



FROM ONLY $99

FIVE YEAR WARRANTY

V.90 STANDARD

CONNECT with Rockwell

Minimum System Requirements

- Computer with 486 processor (Pentium recommended)
- 8 MB RAM (16 MB recommended)
- Microsoft Windows 3.1, 95 or 98 for communications software
- High speed port - 16550 UART required for communications above 19,200 bps (External modem only)
- CD-ROM drive for communications software installation

Includes

- Diamond Voice 56 Modem
- Multimedia stereo headset with microphone
- Telephone line cord
- Serial cable (dual 25 pin and 9 pin - External modem only)
- 12 volt AC power supply (External modem only)
- Installation and Setup manual
- Technical Users Manual containing AT command reference section on CD-ROM
- Cheyenne Bitware for Windows 3.x, 95 and 98 (on CD-ROM)
- Windows 95/98/NT driver on 3.5" floppy disk
- 50 Hour free internet offer from OzEmail

* For data download speeds above 33.6 Kbps, you must be connected to an Internet Service Provider (ISP) that supports the same protocol as the modem, either K56flex or V.90. The actual connection speed may vary with the telecommunications carrier line quality conditions in your area.

Mitsubishi Diamond Voice 56K Modem (Internal) OEM OFF010 **$99**

Mitsubishi Diamond Voice 56K Modem (External) OEM OFF009 **$139**

SOFTWARE WAREHOUSE

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MODEMS MODEMS MODEMS MODEMS MODEMS MODEMS MODEMS MODEMS

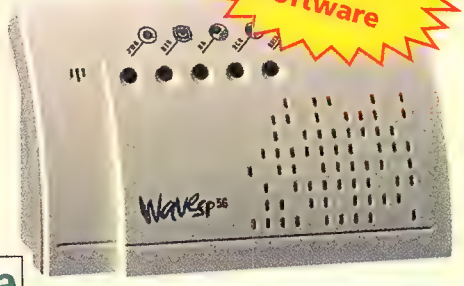
Banksia WaveSP 56

The fully featured 56,000bps modem!

5 YEAR WARRANTY

Free Web & Internet Software

The Wave SP is the first modem to be awarded a prestigious Australian Design Mark in recognition of design excellence and innovation. The assessment panel commented that "(the Wave SP) is radically different from its competitors and upholds the highest principles of unitary design".



Banksia's revolutionary new wave SP Fax Modem includes;

- High speed data transmission at 56,000bps (v.90 standard)
- Microsoft Internet Explorer™ for Internet surfing & Web site construction
- Fax transmission at 14,400bps
- The best new games
- Simultaneous voice & data (SVD) transmission
- Full duplex speakerphone (hands free telephone)
- Fully featured smart answerphone
- A radical new shape for optimum performance

Banksia

Banksia Wave 33.6 SP Fax Modem AUZ134	Banksia PC Card 56K BAN056	Banksia Combo Card 56K + 10BASE T Ethernet Adaptor BAN060	BAN003
$179	$249	$279	$225

NetComm CardModem56 Global

The NetComm CardModem56 Global gives you the freedom of data connection wherever you are, regardless of whether there's a phone line handy. And with data download speeds of up to a scorching 56,000bps and the ability to send and receive faxes of up to 14,400bps, you have the ultimate mobile office. So no matter where you are - in a multitude of countries around the world, between your laptop, your mobile phone and the NetComm CardModem56 Global, you'll always be in touch.

Features:

1+2 Warranty - NetComm's 1 year warranty, with an additional 2 years parts and labour upon registration.

Ready to Travel - a built-in interface that's designed to be approved in a verity of countries around the world.

Rockwell K56flex - used to achieve superior quality in the latest telephone exchange technology.

Super Reliable - specially designed for people on the move, so we've ensured it is robust enough to survive even the most punishing use.

GSM Capable - achieve maximum flexibility with the option of both GSM and standard telephone line connection with high speed fax/modem capability.

Your NetComm CardModem56 Global package contains the following items: CardModem56 Global, telephone line cord and warranty card. Plus communications and Internet software, modem drivers and manuals. Drivers are included for Windows 95/98, Windows NT, Windows 3.1x, MS-DOS and many third party applications. (GSM connection cables sold separately). A Global utility disk for international access.

IMPORTANT
- 56Kbps is a download proprietary standard only
- 56Kbps download speeds are subject to telecommunication carrier service
- 33.6Kbps is the maximum upload speed
- To achieve 56Kbps the Internet Service Provider you are connected to must use the same proprietary standard

NET030 **$319**

NetComm Roadster II 56 Voice, Fax Data Modems

Ultra

Using the latest telephone exchange technology, the NetComm Roadster II 56 voice, fax, data modems deliver much greater speed. So now the World Wide Web is made much more exciting - with super fast downloading of graphics, games and multimedia.

The Roadster II 56 Ultra's multipurpose speakerphone capability turns your PC into a hands free telephone (Speakerphone). Your computer can store all your phone numbers and dial with the click of a mouse button.

On the NetComm Communication CD you will find all you need to make the most of your modem including user guide communication software, drivers, cool games and much more.

NET147 **$249**

USB

The Roadster II 56 USB incorporates the latest serial bus technology known as USB (Universal Serial Bus). USB is an evolutionary step up from current serial ports, offering higher throughputs, TRUE Plug & Play and Auto Setup. It also does away with the need to use an external power supply, as the USB port of the computer now supplies the power to the modem directly.

With Simultaneous Voice and Data (SVD) functionality, you can speak to the person you are sending data to at the same time, over the same telephone line, without having to make an additional call. While playing your favourite games, speak to and hear your competitors' reaction as you blast them away!

Note: 56Kbps is a download speed only, 33.6 Kbps is the maximum upload speed. Download speed are subject to telecommunication carrier service.

NET028 **$249**

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THE INTERNET AND MUCH MORE

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*Next day *
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Thousands of products, all at the best prices. Whether you are looking for information, or want to place an order, make sure you pay us a visit first!

We aim to stock at least 95% of ALL the items we sell

APC The Best Value in PC Power Protection

AMERICAN POWER CONVERSION

Computer users fall into two groups: those who have lost data due to power problems and those who are going to. The more you use your computer, the sooner you'll have to pay for that loss. Power problems wreak havoc on today's multitasking networked or stand-alone PCs. The more you do with your PC, the more you stand to lose.

Back-UPS

Best value power protection for stand alone PCs

Features

- Compact design for desktop computers
- Surge protected outlet for laser printers
- Three battery back-up outlets to protect your work
- Lightning and surge suppression to protect your hardware
- Full-time EMI/RFI filters for noise filtration
- Communication interface port
- QuickSwap battery replacement system and Quick recharge
- User adjustable option switches allow you to save battery power
- Two year warranty and Industry approvals

APC Back-Ups 300 APC013	APC Back-Ups 500 APC021	APC Back-Ups 650 APC022
$189	$249	$369

Back-UPS Pro

Performance power protection for advanced workstations

Features

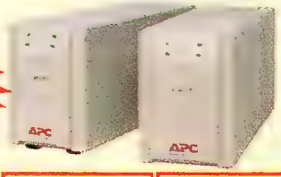
- Complete System Protection and Enterprise-wide manageability for Network Clients
- Performance Workstation/System Protection
- Multiple Workstation Protection
- "Best in Class" Longest Runtime and Guaranteed Lighting Protection
- Quick, easy push-button recovery circuit breaker instead of a standard fuse
- Audible alarms let you know is the unit is on battery, or if the battery is low, or even if there is an overload condition
- Multipath protection with dedicated outlets for your entire computer system
- Two year warranty and industry approvals

APC Back-Ups Pro 280 PNP APC030	APC Back-Ups Pro 420 PNP APC031	APC Back-Ups Pro 650 PNP APC032
$315	$429	$539

Smart-UPS

Performance Power Management for advanced business networks

Includes FREE PowerChute Plus



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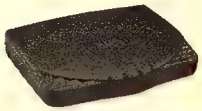

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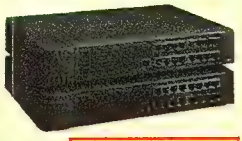

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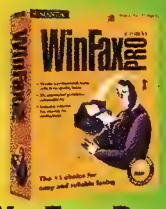

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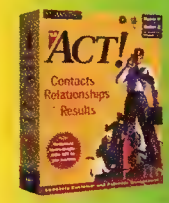

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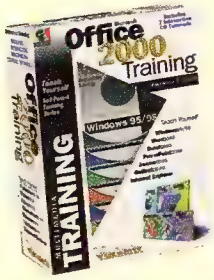

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- **Powerpoint 2000**
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- **Internet Explorer 5**
  Examining desktop icons, launching internet explorer, screen elements, defining URL, opening a web page, entering an internet address, disabling the show pictures option, viewing/ discussing alternative text, using hyperlinks to navigate, changing the default homepage, viewing an offline homepage, discussing channels, adding active desktop items and more.

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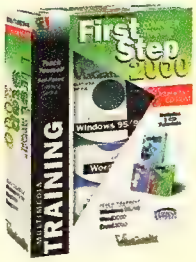

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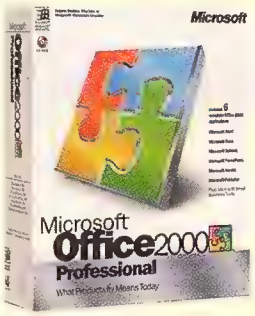

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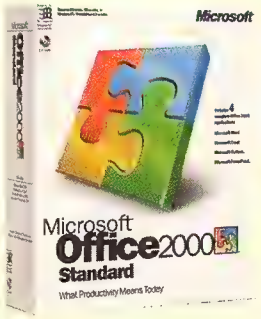

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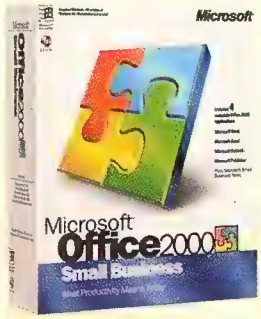

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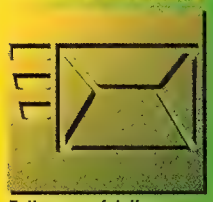

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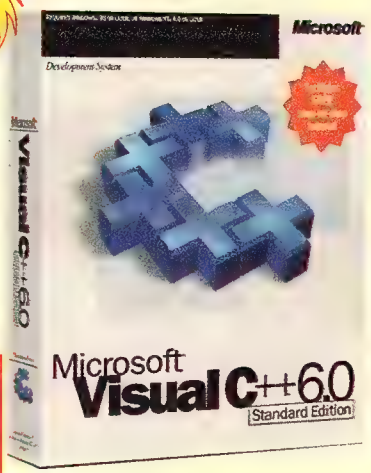

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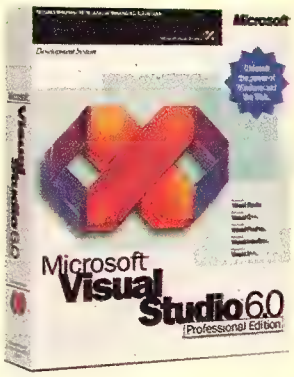

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Microsoft Visual Basic 6.0, Visual C++, Visual FoxPro 6.0, Visual InterDev 6.0, Visual J++ 6.0, MSDN Library Special Edition	The complete suite of Microsoft Visual Tools.	●	●
Enterprise Visual Database Tools	Visually design databases and views, and create and test stored procedures for Microsoft SQLServer 6.5+ and Oracle 7.0+ databases.		●
Microsoft BackOffice 4.5 Developer Edition (for Windows NT only)	Build Windows NT-based solution that can be accessed from Windows-based or Web-based clients and integrated in enterprise environment with selected server technologies form the Microsoft BackOffice family. The Development License for Microsoft BackOffice Server 4.5 includes Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft Exchange, Microsoft SNA Server, Microsoft Site Server, Microsoft Systems Management Server and Windows NT Server.		●
Team Support	Microsoft Visual SourceSafe version control system version 6.0, Visual Component Manager, and Microsoft Repository.		●
Application Design Tools	Design multi-tier applications with Visual Modeler.		●

EDUCATIONAL pricing AVAILABLE

Visual Studio Pro 6.0 U/G
MSS054
$859

Visual Studio Pro 6.0
MSS053
$1699

Visual Studio Ent 6.0
MSS055
$2575

Visual Studio Ent 6.0 U/G
MSS056
$1699

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Microsoft Windows 98

Works Better, Plays Better

Microsoft Windows 98 is the exciting new successor to Windows 95

Enhance your productivity and redefine your PC's possibilities using the Microsoft Windows 98 operation system.

It provides full Internet integration, optimal performance and support for the latest entertainment and accessory options.

Microsoft Windows 98 is packed with new features and greater performance

- Complete Internet Integration - Provides the fastest and best platform to surf the Internet and makes using your PC and getting help easier with new HTML-based help.
- Better Performance - Your mostly used applications launch on average 36% faster as the same applications running on Windows 95. The system shuts down at least twice as fast as Windows 95. Web pages are rendered 25% faster than Navigator 4 or Internet Explorer 3. OnNow-enabled PCs will switch on and off as fast as a TV-set.
- Supports the new wave of USB hardware that is coming out now - Allows you to plug in thousands of new peripheral devices like you plug in a lamp into an electric outlet such as cameras, scanners, joysticks, etc.
- Increased Reliability and improved troubleshooting - New and improved utilities work automatically to ensure your system runs smoothly.
- Increased Productivity - Run multiple monitors from a single PC.
- Tunes your PC Automatically - Keeps your PC tuned by automatically deleting unneeded files and defragging your hard disk and in addition, Windows Update provides dynamic help from their support database on the Web.
- Improved Games Experience - Better and faster 3-D graphics.
- More disk space - Windows 98 frees up a 1/3 of your hard disk space by introducing a more efficient file system (FAT-32).

SAVE $30

Microsoft Windows 98 U/G
MIC770
ONLY
$139

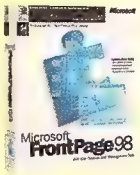
Microsoft Front Page 98

With authoring and Management tool plus Bonus Pack

Microsoft FrontPage 98 with Bonus pack makes creating professional-quality websites effortless with powerful new functionality, support for the latest Web technologies and seamless integration with Microsoft Office. It's never been easier.

Includes powerful Web technologies.

- Easily incorporate your own tags, ActiveXT, controls, database support, JavaScriptT, browser plug-ins, and Visual Basics, Scripting Edition.
- Build eye-catching pages using WYSIWYG editing- there's no need to know HTML
- FrontPage Editor provides a graphical editing environment that works like other Microsoft Office 97 applications. Add content with wizards, templates and drag-and-drop ease.
- Plus many more features.



Microsoft FrontPage 98
MSS022
$169

MicrosoftFrontPage 98 U/G
MSS026
$85

Microsoft Publisher 98

Publisher 98 is the world's leading business DTP application

Publisher 98 features a completely re-designed flexible wizard model that allows you to utilize the power of the wizard at any time during the creative process. And to carry that look across all your marketing materials - whether they are printed on your colour desktop printer or posted on the World Wide Web.

Includes:

- Professionally designed templates for all occasions.
- Allows you to browse through over 1500 professionally designed publication templates.
- Provides step by step instructions.
- Colour schemes are easy to apply and change - get your own look.
- Choose from 10,000+ pieces of unique clip are, 175 fonts, 1,500 photographs, 1,000 Web art elements, and over 300 animated GIFs.

Microsoft Publisher 98
MSS098
$149

Microsoft Publisher 98 U/G
MSS089
$119

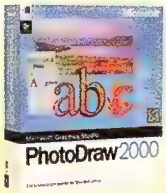
Microsoft Graphics Studio PhotoDraw 2000

Easily create custom graphics for Microsoft Office documents and the Web

Now business users can create professional-looking artwork to enhance their marketing materials without having any graphics design experience - Microsoft PhotoDraw combines powerful illustration and photo-editing in one easy-to-use program that works just like Microsoft Office.

Includes:

- 20,000 pieces of clip art and high-quality backgrounds, and more than 300 professionally designed business templates for everything from business logos and flyers to Web buttons.
- 3-D and other special effects that can be added to any graphic, text, or photo, and preview the effects before applying them.
- Read files from CorelDRAW, Adobe Photoshop, and other graphics programs.



Microsoft PhotoDraw 2000
MSS197
$229

Microsoft Plus! 98

The ideal companion for Windows 98

Microsoft Plus! 98 is the ideal companion for Windows 98, with enhancements for work and play. It includes powerful system utilities, new themes and cool games.

POWERFUL SYSTEMS UTILITY

Microsoft Plus! 98
MIC761
$55

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Microsoft Open Licensing is THE most cost effective way for businesses to purchase Microsoft software.

Open Licensing will:

SAVE YOU MONEY. The scheme is designed to give large discounts.

GIVE YOU FULL SUPPORT. Receive full technical support from the people who made the software!

KEEP YOU LEGAL. Enjoy the peace of mind knowing you are free from legal action on illegal use of software.

And here at International Software Warehouse we have made a commitment to ensure that nobody will beat us on MOLP pricing. Call one of our MOLP trained sales team today, and find out how much you can save.

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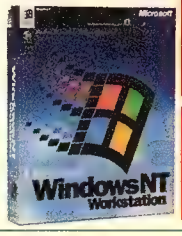
Make sure to ask for your gift when ordering

Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0

Powerful Performance and Reliability



Key Features:

- ease of use
- secure, easy access to the internet and Corporate intranets
- improved network integration
- improved management features
- mobile computing
- multimedia and graphics improvements
- application programming interfaces and additional features

MS Windows NT Workstation 4.0 U/G
MSS048
$225

MS Windows NT Workstation 4.0
MIC464
$469

Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0

Key Features:

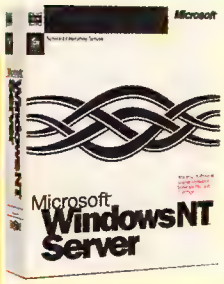
- lower operating costs
- leverage your existing systems
- globally manage users and security from a central location
- reduce communication costs by using a VPN to dial in via the Internet
- create professional-quality Web sites easily
- build and deploy powerful intranet applications quickly
- manage all Web sites across an entire network from a single location

MS Windows NT Server 4.0 + 5 Client UG
MIC583
$499

MS Windows NT Server 4.0 + 5 Client
MIC463
$1249

MS Windows NT Server 4.0 + 10 Client UG
MIC493
$679

MS Windows NT Server 4.0 + 10 Client
MIC495
$1779



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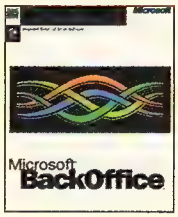


Microsoft BackOffice Version 4.0

Microsoft BackOffice provides the integration, ease of use, scaleability and manageability hitherto unavailable with traditional client server or Internet software. It provides the best foundation for a new class of solutions that combine the best of three-tier client server and Internet technologies allowing either thick client or thin client solutions to be used as appropriate.

Includes *(boxes shown for display purposes only)*:

Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0

Microsoft SQL Server 6.5

Microsoft SNA Server 3.0

Microsoft Systems Management Server 1.2

Microsoft Exchange Server 4.0

Proxy Server 1.0

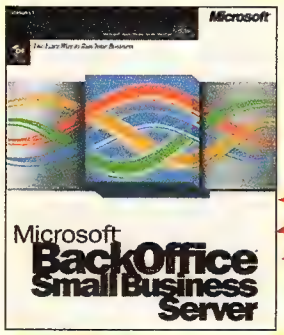
MS BackOffice Server 4.0
MSS130
$3749

MS BackOffice Server 4.0 Comp U/G
MSS131
$3149

MS BackOffice Server 4.0 Version U/G
MSS132
$1349

Microsoft BackOffice Small Business Server

Microsoft BackOffice Small Business makes it easy to manage and grow your business and now with Microsoft Office 97 Pro you have the Complete Business Solution



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.ISWH.COM.AU FOR FULL INFORMATION ON ALL MICROSOFT PRODUCTS

File, print, and application services;

- Proven product, secure, reliable, comprehensive platform for connecting to the Internet .
- MS SQL Server provides a powerful, secure relational database for running business apps.

Communicate in new, more efficient ways;

- Communicate across the world build an online community with electronic mail, discussion groups etc. Centrally manage sending and receiving faxes. Locate a Service Provider & get on the Internet fast! MS Proxy Server - fast, secure access to the Internet from individual desktop PCs.

Easy to set up, manage, and grow

- Installing MS Small Business Server is truly easy. Automated tools.
- Walk you through the setup step by step.

BackOffice SBS 4.0 + Office 97 Pro 5 Users Starter Kit
MSS127
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BackOffice SBS 4.0 + Office 97 Pro Additional 5 Client Licence
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MSS070
$1449

BackOffice SBS 4.0 English Intl CD 5 Client
MSS072
$2349

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MYOB is Australia's favourite

- *used by over 140,000 Australian businesses*
- *recommended by 2 out of 3 Australian Accountants*
- *Year 2000 compliant - see www.myob.com.au*

AUSTRALIAN OWNED
AUSTRALIAN MADE

MYOB Accounting V8
MYOB Accounting With Payroll V8

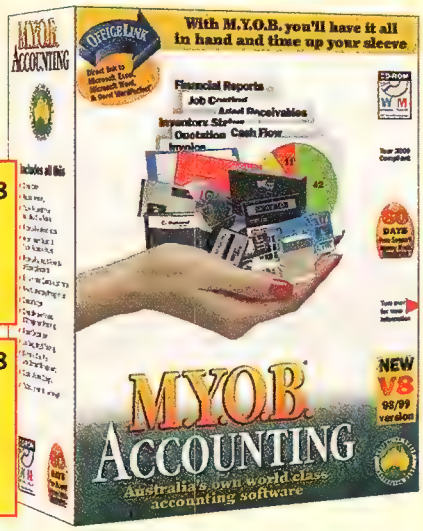
MYOB Accounting Version 8 builds on all of MYOB's award-winning features and adds:

- MYOB OfficeLink direct link to MS Word and MS Excel
- User-definable aging – choose 7-14-21 days or whatever you want. Plus correct monthly aging.
- Electronic payments via your bank & 27 other enhancements.

Features include; General Ledger, Chequebook, Sales & Receivables, Purchases & Payables and Full Inventory. **MYOB Accounting with Payroll** includes all of these features plus a fully integrated Payroll.

MYOB Accounting V8
MYO030
$325

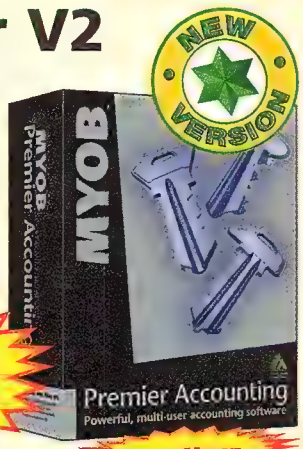
MYOB Accounting V8 with payroll
MYO031
$475



MYOB Premier V2

Multi-user accounting that's as easy as MYOB

All the accounting features of MYOB Accounting with Payroll, plus additional features tuned for use across a network by multiple users. MYOB Premier brings the power, flexibility and award-winning ease-of-use of MYOB to multiple concurrent users. Includes access for 3 concurrent users – additional licences easily added.



NOW WITH PROFESSIONAL TIME BILLING

What's new in V2

Professional Time Billing

MYOB Premier is now even more powerful with the inclusion of a heavy-duty professional time billing module. MYOB's time billing function is just right for professionals such as consultants, lawyers, accountants, architects, graphic designers and anyone who bills by the time they spend with a client or on a project.

Enhanced Inventory

Now more powerful than ever with breakthrough features including:

- Multiple pricing levels - for a single product easily set prices for retail, wholesale or any of 5 levels.
- 5 years of item sales history.
- New user-definable fields - keep track of colours, styles or anything else you wish.

MYOB Premier V2
MYO013
$875

MYOB FirstAccounts

Your ideal first accounting system, MYOB FirstAccounts makes it easy for you to track income and expenditure, reconcile bank statements, create and print invoices, statements, and purchase orders, track who owes you money and who you owe money to. Produce profit & loss and other key reports with a mouse click. No business is too small for FirstAccounts. Outgrown Quicken, MS-Money? You can easily move up to MYOB FirstAccounts.

MYOB FirstAccounts
MYO025
$165

MYOB ASSET MANAGER

Do you know how much money you have invested in fixed assets? Do you know where they are? Can you quickly provide a list of assets to the insurance company? Are you keeping depreciation schedules and asset cost information the ATO requires? If not, you need MYOB Asset Manager.

MYO003 ..$249

Y2K compliant

MYOB POWERPAY

Powerpay can process payroll in minutes. Designed for companies with more than 20 employees, Powerpay is quick and easy to set up. Using a prompting system, it guides you through setting up the details for each employee. It even comes with 60 days free introductory support.

MYO028 ..$425

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Full range of delivery options;
Same day, Sydney
*Next day *
International
*where applicable

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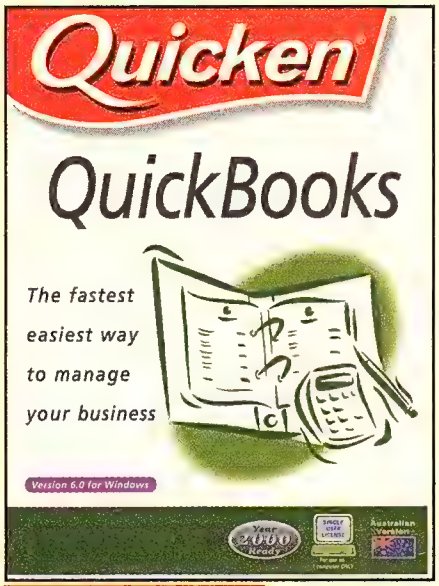
We aim to stock at least 95% of ALL the items we sell

QuickBooks V6

NEW



Features:

Increased efficiency

- Pop-up date calendar on date-fields.
- Ability to sort registers in 5 different ways (eg. can arrange information by dollar amount, document number, order entered, date and order entered).
- Benefits from 32-bit optimised performance, including right mouse-click functionality.
- Improved help file - "How do I" menu button that makes searching for help instructions quicker and easier.
- Ability to directly specify the next cheque numbers when paying bills without having to return to the register.

Easier to Work with Your Accountant

- Users can now associate a tax line with each account providing the ability to create tax reports in QuickBooks to assist in completion of the tax return. The reports show the amounts to fill in for each tax line on the tax return.

Increased Report Functionality

- Retains report orientation so that when you enter for it to be in portrait or landscape it remembers this next time you want to print it out.
- Unbilled costs by job. Allows users to quickly see any outstanding expenses not yet charged back to customers. This report helps ensure reimbursement in a timely manner for expenses incurred.

Customising Company Information

- Ability to record the ACN or ARBN in a specific field so it appears on sales and purchase orders and reports.

QUICKBOOKS Pro V6
5 Multi-user License
QUI151
$879

QUI150
$169

QuickBooks is the easy to learn and use, flexible, comprehensive and integrated accounting and financial management software package for small to medium size enterprises.

System requirements: Win 95, 98 or NT Platforms

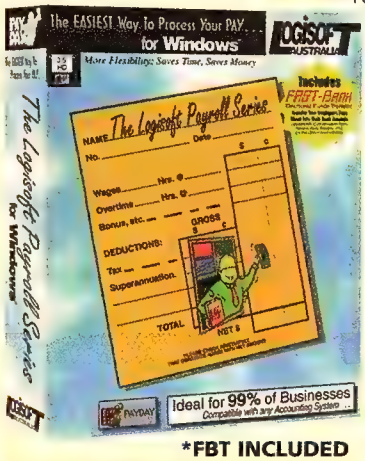
QUI147 QuickBooks V6 Tech Upgrade	$89
QUI148 QuickBooks Pro V6	$299
QUI149 QuickBooks Pro V6 Tech Upgrade	$129
QUI140 Quicken V7	$69
QUI141 Quicken Deluxe V7	$89
QUI142 Quicken For Business V7	$135

Payroll Headaches? You Need Logisoft!

It's time to make payday less stressful. With the Logisoft Payroll Series, you can process pay easier and faster, saving you time, money and sanity!

Since 1986, the ATO approved Logisoft Payroll Series has been developed to ensure compliance with all current Superannuation Guarantee and many other Award, Industrial and Legislative requirements. The Logisoft Payroll Series can back up it's claims: It is now being used to pay over 1 MILLION Australian employees EVERY WEEK! The customisable payroll series fully integrates with MYOB, QuickBooks, Pastel, Peachtree and many others. And it covers UNLIMITED employees! If you need more information, call our sales team on 1300 300 003.

www.logisoft.com.au



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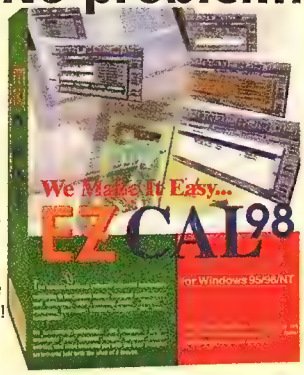
WAS ~~$295~~
NOW ONLY $195 (LGS001)
Limited Time Only

PayPacket Professional (Unlimited Companies)	PayPacket (up to 3 Companies)
LGS003	LGS002
$1495	**$595**

No accounting knowledge? No problem!

Get EZCal '98 - the easiest business software for small businesses available in the market today!



EZCal '98 is designed so that it can be used within 15 to 20 minutes with no training! Online coach assists you in completing any task. Focus on running your business rather than learning how to use the software. Increase performance and efficiency, while reducing costs! Finally, a complete business software solution for small businesses!

- Quotes
- Inventory/Stock Control
- Debtors
- General Ledger
- Invoicing
- Creditors
- Cashbook
- and much, much more!!!

EZCal '98 maintains your General Ledger, creates journal entries and even provides you with the best financial statements with just a click of the mouse. Choose from over 120 of the most common business reports and graphs: Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Sales, Purchases, Financial Standing and more...

The professional appearance, customisable headings and instant representation of your business standing make EZCal '98 the best available for small and home offices!

EZCal '98 Total Office
SPN001
$279

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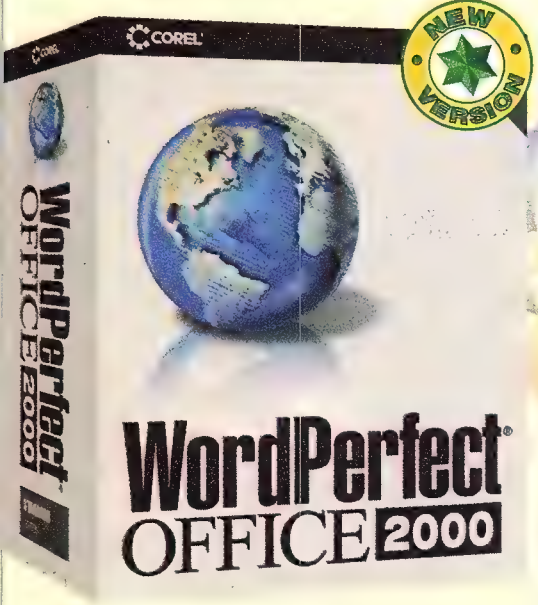
Finally, an office suite that understands the way you work. Perfect for your business, it's packed with features that make life easier. Increase productivity with voice-enabled word processing. Share files across most major applications and customise programs with support for Microsoft Visual Basic for Applications. Create your own business material, such as letterhead and brochures. Produce spreadsheets that give data real meaning and slide shows that really make an impact, and publish Web pages from the core applications, without knowing HTML.

It's all about getting the job done right, with suite-wide integration, you can combine text, graphics and charts in one document. WordPerfect Office 2000. today's office solution.



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WordPerfect 9 - Professional word processor, create outstanding documents, such as newsletters, reports, brochures, add graphics, charts and tables with ease. Enhanced Microsoft conversion capabilities. Corel RealTime Preview lets you preview formatting before applying it to your documents.

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Corel Presentations 9 - Create captivating, high-quality slide shows and drawings that leave a lasting impression with this dynamic presentations application. Enhanced Microsoft PowerPoint import/export capabilities. Redesigned Internet Publisher gives you step-by-step instructions on publishing a slide show to the Web

CorelCENTRAL 9 - Manage time and tasks efficiently with this effective information manager. Organise, store, and access communication and scheduling information with ease. PalmPilot Synchronisation lets you synchronise the Calendar, Event & Task Lists, Address Book & Memo applications

Trellix 2 - Quickly organise documents and publish them to the Web without knowing HTML. Increase the availability of information throughout a corporation and reduce the workload by delegating content ownership to specific individuals.

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Includes all the applications in Office 2000 plus

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Use the power of your voice to create, edit and format documents in WordPerfect 9. Philips FreeSpeech 2000 uses High Speed, High Accuracy technology to dramatically improve recognition rates.

Supports dictation by multiple users in multiple languages.

EasyEdit lets you playback text for easy proofreading.

Explore the Web with your voice.

Voice-enhanced word processing means users can watch their words appear on screen as they speak to their computer at a normal pace up to 160 wpm

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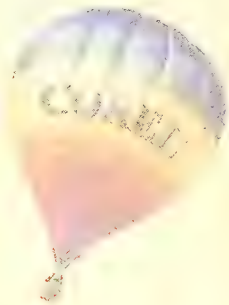

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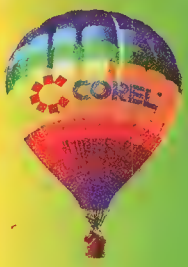
Teach Yourself WordPerfect Office 2000

Get the most out of your software



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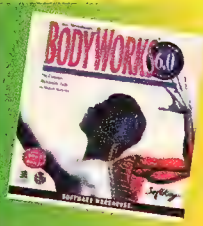

BODYWORKS v6

Whether you are looking for an in depth answer to a question, or just want to learn more about the human body - Bodyworks is the most informative and educational way to do it.

Includes:

* More than 80 rotating 3D models with audio
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* Web site directory and one button Internet access to current medical information

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- ✔Works with your familiar word-processor
- ✔Work at your own pace

CD Format

(Professional licences and 3.5 Disk version also available)

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TQA004
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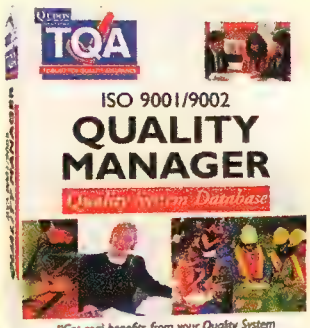
Manage your quality system without bulging filing cabinets

TQA Quality Manager



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Audit Schedule to plan your audit program, and identify outstanding audits. Generate Audit Reports online. Duplicate Schedule reproduces checklists and other details for future years. List Internal Auditors, their contact details, and audits

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Network licences also available

TQA Quality Manager
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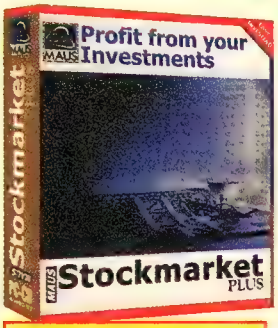
MAUS Stockmarket Plus



MAUS Stockmarket Plus
MAU007
$169

MAUS Stockmarket Plus makes monitoring and managing your investments easy!

Analyse different share returns over time, test the likely profitability of different investments, and even learn how to minimise tax.

MAUS Stockmarket Plus records and reports all trade activities in relation to your portfolio. It includes dividend payments, brokerage rates, inflation movements and your marginal tax rates. Use the charting and query system to examine the direction particular stocks are moving in and to perform queries on shares.

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AUSTRALIAN MADE

KEY BENEFITS

- Professional investment advice in simple English
- Manage stocks, personal finances, property, etc
- Track investments in any ASX listed company
- Download stock prices for fast, accurate analysis

MAUS Stockmarket Plus...."is ideal for both novice and experienced investors who require a package to keep track of their stockmarket investments.... Seldom does a software package completely outclass competitors, offering users a clearly superior product in terms of sophistication, simplicity and obvious attention to detail"
Review of core software - Personal Investment Magazine, 1997

MAUS Stockmarket Plus...."is specifically designed for monitoring a share portfolio and has the added advantage of providing analytical tools as well as keeping the records you need"
Review of core software - Editor of Money Section (SMH 17/9/97)

MAUS Debt Collector

The easy approach to debt collection

AUSTRALIAN MADE

MAUS Debt Collector
MAU009
$179

MAUS Debt Collector is a complete debt collection system which automatically mail merges reminder and demand letters, reminds you of phone calls and action to take, and prompts you step-by-step through the entire debt collection process. To monitor your success, this revolutionary new product includes a unique graphing and reporting feature to quickly assess your current debtor position.

KEY BENEFITS

- Reduce bad debts
- Cut collection time and costs
- Automatically sends 30, 60 and 90 day reminder letters
- Stand alone contact manager stores all debtor details
- Includes professional letters, legal documents & advice

ALL PRICES INCLUDE SALES TAX. PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE, SEE PAGE 55 FOR TERMS & CONDITIONS

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Business & Marketing Plans *The Easy Way*

MAUS MasterPlan is designed for people who need a winning, professional Business Plan instantly. A step-by-step question and answer format enables you to construct full financials, text and graphics at the click of a button. **MAUS** MasterPlan will allow you to analyse and develop your business.
Topics covered include Sales Analysis, Market Analysis, SWOT Analysis, Marketing Plan, Financial Plan, and much more. Australian written and tested in the field, this program has been tailored specifically to meet the needs of Australian users and is suitable for both product and service businesses in any industry. With **MAUS** MasterPlan, your Business Plans will be more effective, more impressive, and greatly improve your chance of achieving success!

Runs on Windows 3.1 or later

AUSTRALIAN MADE

Product Summary

MAUS MasterPlan - Level 2 (Professional): Software to help you prepare either a simple Business Plan or a more detailed Business Plan which incorporates a full Marketing Plan and analysis. Includes full financial analysis, a follow up program which doubles as a Time Management tool and a FREE Business Planning workbook. Suitable for loan applications, analysing and improving an existing business, launching new products, or starting a new business.

WHAT THE PRESS ARE SAYING

"The brilliance of this system is that you're led through the entire process step by step... the results will be as good as anything a professional would have provided for you"

Your Computer Magazine

★★★★★★ 6/6 Overall

PC @uthority (January 1999)

MAUS MasterPlan for Windows - Level 2 Professional
(2 in 1 Business & Marketing Planner)
AUS501
$169

Key Benefits

- Creates Business & Marketing Plans
- Suitable for business people of all levels
- Creates full financials & graphs
- Includes a simple step-by-step tutorial

MAUS Consultant's Pack

Establish a Business Planning Consultancy

Used by 1000's of Accountants and Consultants, the **MAUS** Consultant's Pack will give you the forms, tools and know-how to establish a successful Business Planning Consultancy overnight. Includes information on setting up your consultancy service, promoting and costing your services, impressing your clients and a step-by-step guide for every assignment. Software contains over 80 pages of forms and management question checklists, overheads for training, sample proposals, press releases, advertisements and much more!

Includes

- **MAUS** MasterPlan Professional
- Consultant's Guide to Business Planning
- Special Consultancy Software
- Questionnaires for clients
- Training Manual

Used by 1000's of accountants and Consultants

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MAUS Consultant's Pack
(Inc MAUS Master Plan Professional)
MAU003
$469

MAUS Job Descriptions

Write job descriptions in minutes!

MAUS Job Descriptions will help you create clear, concise job descriptions in minutes!

Simply choose from the thousands of built-in jobs and edit or even combine duties from different jobs. Next, use the simple question and answer approach to address the physical and educational requirements, work environment, qualifications and supervisory responsibilities.

MAUS Job Descriptions will then take your answers and write a comprehensive job description that's fully customised to your organisation...

...It's that fast. It's that easy!

Key Benefits

- Create job descriptions in minutes
- Over 3,500 sample job descriptions to choose from
- Hire the right people
- Improve productivity
- Protect your organisation against unfair dismissal claims

MAUS Job Descriptions
MAU005
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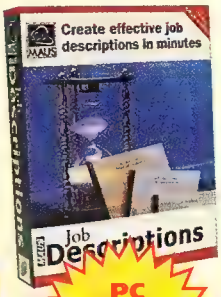


PC USERS BEST PRODUCTS OF 1998

WHAT THE PRESS ARE SAYING:

"Job Descriptions offers 3,500 professional descriptions and Performance Review gives a list to follow when judging staff performance."
Sydney Morning Herald (18th August 1998)

"...ideally designed to be used in conjunction with job interviews, HR planning and annual staff reviews"
The Age (25th August 1998)

"...simple, affordable, revolutionary"
Instore Magazine (September 1998)

★★★★★★
6/6 Value for Money
PC @uthority (October 1998)

MAUS Performance Review

For fast, effective employee appraisals!

Described by PC @uthority as "one of the first products any manager should load onto their PC", **MAUS** Performance Review will help you create accurate, personalised employee reviews in minutes!

Simply choose from the dozens of performance criteria such as initiative, leadership, problem solving ability, and sales skills.....to name just a few! Next, use the simple 1 - 5 grading system to rank your employees in each area.

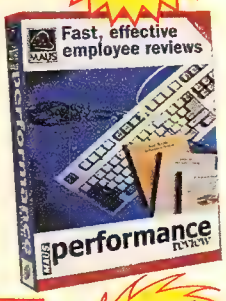
MAUS Performance Review will then support your ratings with clear, effective text...

...It's that fast. It's that easy!

Key Benefits

- Save 50-90% of the time to write employee reviews
- Simple step-by-step approach
- Record ongoing problems and achievements
- Accurate, personalised reviews
- Clear, natural text flows

MAUS Performance Review
MAU004
$169



SAVE $30

Buy Both and Save
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$308

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Stay organised, wherever you go! The 3COM Palm III is the latest version of the award winning range of personal organisers from 3COM. Weighing in at an amazing 126 grams (approx 160 grams including the batteries) and measuring 12cm by 8cm by 2cm, the Palm III can:

- Store 6000 addresses
- 5 years of appointments
- 1500 to do items
- 1500 memos
- 200 emails

It includes an address book, date book, to do list, memo pad, expense report templates, calculator, security options and some bonus games.

USR051

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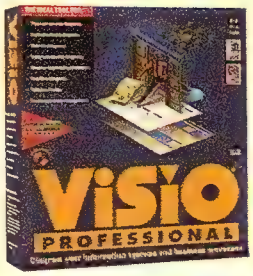
Whether your IS/IT specialty is networks, databases, or software, Visio Professional gives you the tools to do your job and to exchange information effectively with other IS/IT personnel.

- Network diagramming and documentation.
- Software diagramming and documentation.
- Database diagramming and documentation.
- Share and exchange information.



A Fully Customizable Development Platform

Different jobs require different capabilities. That's why we allow you to customise virtually every aspect of Visio Professional:

- Create custom shapes.
- Integrate Visio Professional into a custom solution.
- Add ActiveX controls.
- Tap our developer resources.

Visio Professional 5.0
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$629

Visio Professional Upgrade
VIS104
$335

Visio Professional 10 user license
VIS105
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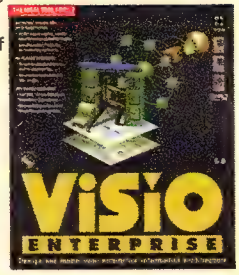
Design and Model Your Enterprise Information Architecture

Visio Enterprise is the ideal tool for designing and documenting networks, modelling and designing databases, and modelling software applications across an enterprise information infrastructure.



- Streamline the design and documentation of LANs, WANs, wiring closets, and directory structures.
- Built-in SNMP-based network AutoDiscovery technology and Guided Diagramming capabilities produce diagrams of logical and physical topologies.
- Guided Updating feature helps keep diagrams current as your network changes.
- 14,000 exact-replica, vendor-specific device shapes represent your entire network in complete detail.
- Design and re-engineer databases from IBM, Informix, Microsoft, Oracle, and other leading vendors.
- Synchronize models with databases using a unique three-way comparison that detects changes made to the database since the last model-database update.
- Create customizable reports, generate and edit DDL scripts, and freely switch among multiple entity relationship notations.

Visio Enterprise 5.0
VIS115
$1549

Visio Enterprise 5.0 Upgrade
VIS116
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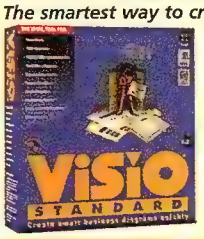
Standard 5.0

The smartest way to create all your business diagrams



- Visualise information stored and distributed in databases and spreadsheets.
- Avoid complex and time-consuming analysis of data and figures.
- Easily build and share your business diagrams with Microsoft Compatibility.
- Drag and drop your diagrams into any OLE compliant word processor, presentation package, spreadsheet or other software.
- Built-in support for Internet/Intranet standards (HTML and ActiveX) and document management standards ODMA).

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VIS099
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Technical 5.0

Create & share technical drawings

1. Fast - Its drag-and-drop drawing style and intuitive work environment enables users to quickly produce high-quality technical diagrams with little or no training.
2. Intelligent - Every SmartShapes symbol can store a unique set of data and is programmed to behave like its real-world counterpart.
3. Compatible - With built-in CAD integration you can read and write files in popular CAD formats, and even convert static CAD symbols into dynamic Visio Technical shapes.

Simply choose from the included library of more than 4,000 expert-designed, industry-specific symbols, then drag and drop the shapes you need onto the drawing page to assemble technical diagrams in record time.

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Visio Technical 10 user license pack
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Visio Technical 5.0
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The smart new choice for CAD Professionals

Work more productively using IntelliCAD:

Modify multiple selected entities with the right-mouse button. Use the innovative Drawing Explorer to preview blocks of copy and paste layers, linetypes, styles, and more among multiple open drawings (MDI). Customise toolbars, menus, and keyboard shortcuts with a few mouse clicks. Even produce photorealistic 3-D designs using the 3-D drawing and rendering tools.

IntelliCAD 98 by Visio Corporation is the smart, new choice for CAD professionals. It offers unparalleled Autodesk AutoCAD compatibility, smooth Microsoft Windows integration, and numerous productivity features that streamline your work.

Like AutoCAD, IntelliCAD uses the DWG file format as its native format, so you can open V2.5-R14 files without conversion. If you've spent years learning AutoCAD commands, you'll feel at home in IntelliCAD, which fully supports an AutoCAD-compatible command line.

IntelliCAD works with thousands of Autodesk AutoLISP programs, and it runs custom ADS-based programs-whether developed in-house or by a third party, such as Ketiv Technologies, Eagle Point Software, or Hitachi-after a recompile. The result: you can start working immediately, using existing AutoCAD files, commands, and tools.

Features:

- Unparalleled AutoDesk AutoCAD compatible
- Smooth Microsoft Windows integration
- Runs custom ADS based programs
- Includes innovative Drawing Explorer

Visio IntelliCAD 98 U/G VIS118 ..**$259**

Visio IntelliCAD 98
VIS111
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- A visual, intuitive interface makes AutoCAD LT 98 easy to learn, use and remember.
- Quick, precision drawing tools ensure professional drawing productivity.
- Innovative online help and self-paced multimedia tutorials ensure fast product learnability.
- Because it's part of the Autodesk family of products, AutoCAD LT 98 is the only low-cost, 2-D drafting program that's 100 percent compatible with all the innovations in AutoCAD.

Autocad LT 98
QUI051
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Spend Time Drawing - Not Learning Software!

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AutoSketch 6.0
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- Drawing Guides
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- Spell Check
- Dynamic Pan & Zoom
- AutoArray
- Detail View
- Construction Lines
- Advanced tools for easier wall placement
- Hyperlinks

QuickCAD

Faster, easier, and most affordable CAD!

QuickCAD Millennium Edition is the faster, easier, most affordable CAD software, whether you're a first-time user or an expert. A three-level interface prompts you to choose your level of experience - Beginner, Advanced, or Expert - to easily create any technical drawing. Other features include QuickHatch, AutoArray, Jump Snap, Guidelines, Realtime Pan and Zoom and compatibility with most popular CAD programs. In addition, QuickCAD software's DWF export allows you to publish your drawings on the Web. QuickCAD Millennium Edition offers features and performance to allow you to become more productive even faster.

AUT040
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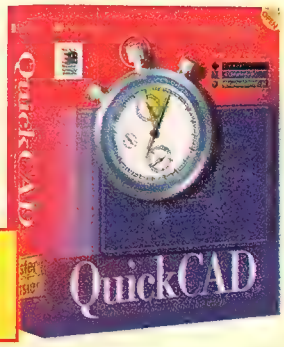

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Symbols 97

AutoCAD LT 98 Compatible

Autodesk Symbols 97 software customises your AutoCAD or AutoCAD LT software for architectural, mechanical, or electronic design and drafting. Choose virtually any symbol you can imagine in imperial or metric units of measure and place it precisely where you want. Modify symbol attributes or extract information for cost of materials and estimating.

- Architectural symbols - A professional collection of more than 2000 architectural symbols that let users complete detailed floor plans and construction documents dramatically faster
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Symbols 97
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Educational & Upgrades

QUI053 AutoCAD LT 98 U/G	$355
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AUT106 AutoSketch 6.0 Institution Ed	$89
AUT107 AutoSketch 6.0 U/G Institution Ed	$59

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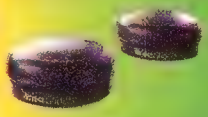
WristGliders™

What are WristGliders™?

WristGliders™ are a revolutionary ergonomic wrist support which can minimise or eliminate the effects of R.S.I. The cushioned circular vinyl platforms glide independently with each hand to provide comfort, flexibility, and proper wrist alignment while using the keyboard and mouse. WristGliders™ deliver the kind of constant, uninterrupted support medical professionals recommend, and are proven to reduce the stress in your back, shoulders, neck, and arms. With WristGliders™, you'll work relaxed and be more productive than ever before.



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CHK018 ..... $29
Wristgliders single pack
CHK019 ..... $15

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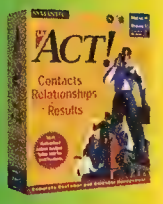

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FloorPlan 3D Design Suite

Bring your home, office, & garden ideas to life

FloorPlan 3D Design Suite has what any building or landscaping project needs. Easy-to-use tools give you the power to transform design ideas into stunning photo-realistic 3D images.

Whether you're creating a home, remodelling an office, adding a deck or landscaping a ten-acre spread, the FloorPlan 3D Design Suite has everything you need. Perfect for custom homes, detailed offices, multi-story layouts, remodelling jobs, easier landscaping, bathrooms, kitchens, and project planning

DRAW WITH SPEED AND PRECISION

Get started quickly with an existing layout, or start from scratch using FloorPlan 3D's easy-to-use drawing tools. The multimedia quick tour shows you how. Designing custom walls, stairs and roofs has never been easier.

VIEW YOUR PROGRESS IN 3D

Create custom views. Navigate your designs with easy-to-use, walk-through commands. FloorPlan 3D's flexible tools even let you edit objects and make colour or texture change anytime.

RENDER LIFELIKE PREVIEWS

See your virtual home from any angle with realistic shadows and reflections using Lightscape technology. FloorPlan 3D's unbeatable previews render the "photo-realistic" images of other products obsolete.

REALISTIC TEXTURES

If you can't decide between granite or marble, redwood or brick, FloorPlan 3D shows you the way with texture alternatives from floor to ceiling!

AWARD-WINNING PLANS

Kick your project off by browsing the Interactive Multimedia Home Designs Encyclopedia from HomeStyles. Whether you are looking for a two-story Tudor or an expansive ranch house, the sheer range of top quality designs are sure to inspire. We've even included 150 editable plans to get you started!

"FloorPlan highlights just how incredibly powerful and affordable professional-level CAD programs have become" PC Review, February 1998.

IMSI™

Key Features:

- Lightscape Technology
- FloorPlan 3D
- 3D Garden Designer
- HomeStyles Home Design Encyclopedia
- TurboProject Express
- Home & Office Symbols
- Unlimited database expandability
- Same document floor levels
- Interactive multi-run stairs
- Automatic creation of opening for stairs

IMS132
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TurboCAD V6

IMSI™

Improve how you design, draw and visualise your projects with new TurboCAD V6

New Version 6 goes way beyond making the normal feature improvements and introduces even more tools and incredibly powerful technology getting to the core of professional quality rendering. TurboCAD V6 is CAD for the Internet Age!

Now that it has its own Integrated Internet Palette, TurboCAD V6 connects you to the World Wide Web and a wealth of useful resources available online. Using your integrated browser, you can actually share desktop space and browse www.turboCAD.com and other Web sites as you work within the application.

TurboCAD V6 is feature rich and powerful ! Don't Compromise your power to impress.

Use Continuous Speech Recognition Technology to free your hands while you work by simply using voice activated commands.

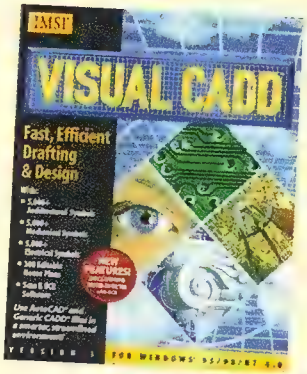
Version 6 also includes a Software Developer Kit; Advanced Raster-to-Vector; Familiar Interface Option for Microstation and AutoCAD; Lightscape Technology and much , much more.....

TurboCAD V6
IMS146
$199

IMS147 TurboCAD V6 Professional **$535**

Visual CADD V3

Fast, efficient drafting and design



Design and draft with efficiency using Visual CADD 3.0. Its unencumbered structure and two-letter shortcuts let you create architectural drawings, schematics and engineering projects — fast. Its open API allows for the creation of utilities and applications based upon the Visual CADD engine. With plans, symbols and fonts, you can generate custom designs that deliver even more information in less time.

Visual CADD version 3.0 has kept the familiar look and feel of its predecessors while improving on features such as the layer manager and symbol manager, and adding new features including running snaps and layer groups.

IMSI™

Key Features

- 5,000+ Architectural Symbols
- 5,000+ Mechanical Symbols
- 5,000+ Electrical Symbols
- 300 Editable House Plans
- Raster-to-Vector with OCR Software
- Scan Software

Visual CADD V3
IMS150
$569

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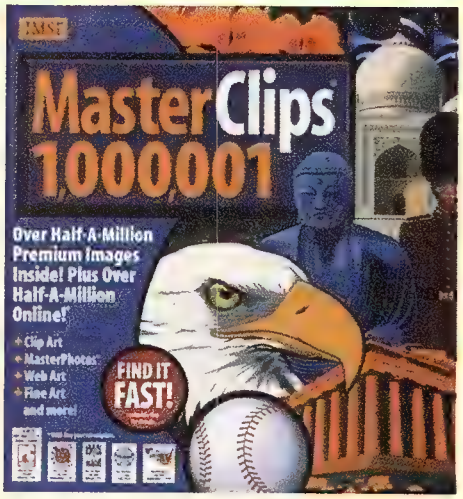

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2. The Colour Catalogue – Over 1,000 pages of colour pictures are intelligently arranged for speedy reference, When you see what you like, the sampler makes accessing the perfect image a snap.

3. Custom Clip-Art – Easily modify your favourite images with the MasterClips Clip Art Editor. Add text, re-size, even change the colours of any vector art with this powerful application.

4. Maximum Image Quality – Tired of resized and printed images that lose their appeal? Vector art is versatile, skewed, edited and printed! Your documents never looked better.

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MasterClips 500,000+

Choose form over half-a-million of the world's finest vector art, classic clip art, MasterPhotos, Web art and more - including thousands of exclusive images you won't find anywhere else! Find and use the perfect image fast with the colour catalogue or the convenient search feature of the MasterClips browser.

IMS106
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Key Features

- The convenient MasterClips Browser
- Full colour sampler manual included
- Educational Multimedia Quick Tour clearly explains how to use the included MasterClips Browser
- A spectacular collection of photos and photo objects
- Handy Design Guide helps you to understand how to use the clip art in your presentations and projects
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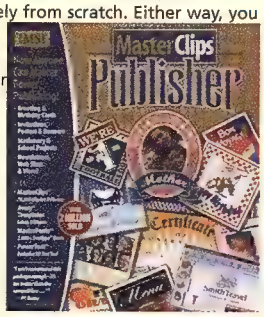
Publishing from home or your office? It's both easy and fun with MasterClips Publisher. Wizards and templates walk you from layout to finish. Or you can create your project entirely from scratch. Either way, you have access to the MasterClips award winning collection, as well as the powerful tools of desktop publishing. So, whether for print or the Web, MasterClips Publisher is all you need to make any document attractive and effective.



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- Mail Merge
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MasterClips Web Art
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Perfect for home users, Small to Medium Enterprises, Graphic Producers and SOHO.

The Adobe Internet Pack includes full working versions of the following Adobe products:

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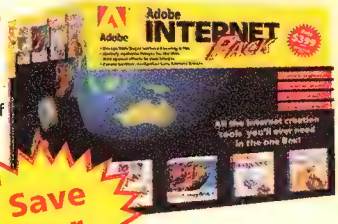
- ImageStyler 1,
- PageMill 3.0,
- PhotoDeluxe 2.0



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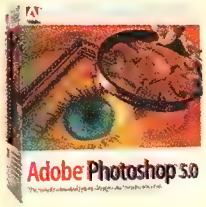
The World standard photo design and production tool

Adobe Photoshop is used by more creative professionals around the world than any other image editing program. It provides the power to create compelling images and the precision to prepare them for the printed page, the Web, and virtually any other medium.



The following key features highlight just some of the amazing capabilities of this program:

- Create, retouch and enhance images in many formats for virtually every medium.
- Professional photography tools including brushes textures, Dodge and Burn.
- Adjust colour brightness and contrast, replace colours, and convert between colour formats, including CMYK and RGB.
- Multiple layers for overlaying of images, text, and graphics with complete freedom to edit and experiment with any element.
- Share files seamlessly between Windows and Mac systems and convert any PDF, Illustrator or EPS files.

Mac	Windows
ADO139	ADO120
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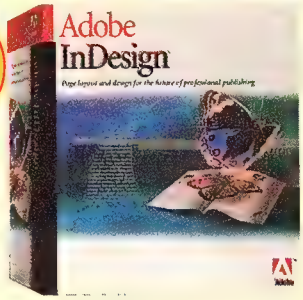

Adobe InDesign software is a new, state-of-the-art page layout program that delivers unprecedented creative freedom, productivity, and precision, while integrating seamlessly with Adobe's other leading design programs. Created for high-end graphic designers, production artists, and prepress professionals, Adobe InDesign removes the creative barriers presented by older publishing software, providing a powerful new set of tools that can help turn inspiration into the finest design work.

Top Features:

Award-winning Adobe user interface-Enjoy design tools that work together to provide a seamless creative environment. InDesign, Illustrator, and Photoshop software looks, feels, and behaves similarly because of common tools, commands, palettes, and keyboard shortcuts.

Conversion of QuarkXPress and Adobe PageMaker documents-Preserve your investment in current design files: InDesign opens QuarkXPress 3.3-4.0x files, as well as PageMaker 6.5 files.

Native Illustrator, Photoshop, and PDF file import-Place Illustrator or Photoshop artwork into InDesign documents. Copy and paste or drag and drop editable Illustrator artwork. Place pages from PDF files as linked graphics.

Extensive support for creating Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF)-Save your documents as PDF files directly from InDesign. Set PDF options for image compression, font embedding, and color conversion.

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Adobe InDesign
ADO181
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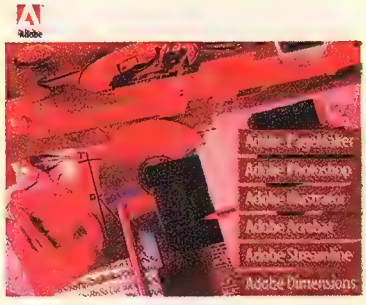
Adobe Publishing Collection

Adobe

The complete package for the creation,assembly and delivery of printed & electronic documents



The complete package for the creation, assembly and delivery of printed and electronic documents

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The Adobe Publishing Collection for Windows and Mac brings together the latest versions of six of the World's leading graphic software packages all in one box. But not only do the come as one - they work as one.

Drag and drop features lets users move effortlessly between programs, ensuring a seamless workflow - whether for print, multimedia or online. The Adobe Publishing Collection comes at a fraction of the price of buying Adobe software separately and we're sure you will agree that choosing the Adobe Publishing Collection is a 'No Contest' decision. A comprehensive and cost-effective way for users such as graphic artists to business professionals to start publishing. Included in the one package are the following Adobe packages:

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- Adobe Acrobat 3.0
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Adobe Publishing Collection

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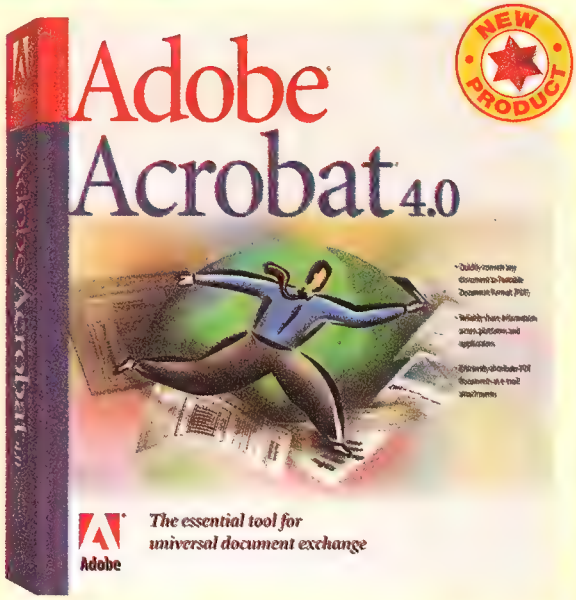
- Reliability -PDF files contain all the fonts, images, colors, and formatting data to display online and print on paper exactly the same, every time.

For your free CD Sampler please visit Adobe's web site: www.pacific.adobe.com



MAC	Windows
ADO177	ADO178
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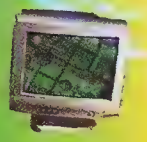

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DAE003 ..

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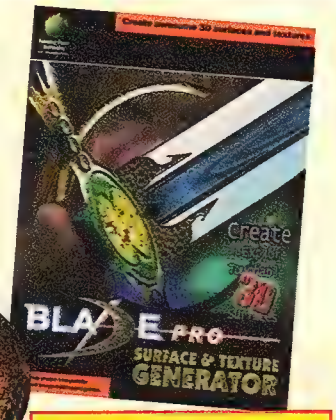

BladePro offers custom textures, zoomable previews,new light sources, mutation, and more. BladePro comes complete with:

- Hundreds of Presets
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- Cracked paint
- Eroded mud
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Fandango

The fast, fun way to create screensavers of all kinds for Windows 95

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It's quick and easy to learn and requires absolutely no programming.

Once you've finished your masterpiece you can install it on your own system or save is as a stand alone project for others to use. Fandango screensavers can be freely distributed and installed on other people's computers just like any standard Windows screensaver and will appear in the Control Panel options, available for selection.

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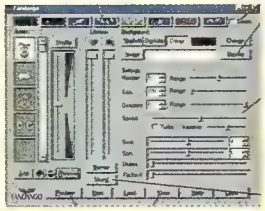
Brand your in-house or in-store machines with your corporate logo or a promotional message.
For Home:
Create a screensaver from your favourite family snapshot or cartoon character.
For the Web:
Create promotional screensavers to download from your web site to encourage surfers.



Features

- Easy to use
- No programming required
- Royalty free distribution of your screen savers
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MAC114
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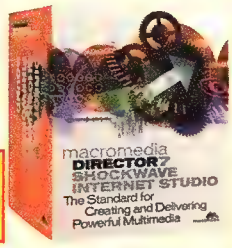
Director 7 Shockwave Internet Studio

The Director Studio delivers a new dimension to the Internet through powerful, interactive multimedia. Stepping beyond the experience of serving simple graphics and text, Director unleashes your creativity with the only tools powerful enough to combine graphics, sound, animation, text, and video into compelling content that grabs your audience and delivers your message.



MAC112
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Flash 4 is the vector-based standard that empowers you to easily design and reliably deliver distinctive, high-impact, low-bandwidth Web sites to all browsers. Top high-traffic consumer and portal sites use Flash to produce the future of Web design today-delivering engaging experiences that attract and excite Web users.

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MAC058
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- Connect your ideas with professional film transitions
- Highlight critical information with eye-catching 2D and 3D charts

MET030
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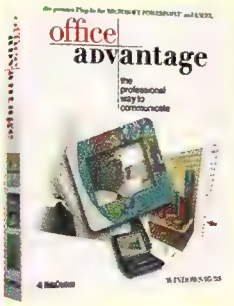

MetaCreations
The Visual Computing Software Company

Headline Studio

NEW PRODUCT

Headline Studio 1.0 brings broadcast-quality graphics to the Web with tools specially designed for Web banner creation, including Web-safe colour palettes and video-like animation effects for animated GIF banners.

- Create your own original broadcast-quality banners for the Web
- Import colour palettes from Painter or PhotoShop, or create your own GIF palette
- Video effects include walk-ins, dissolves and fades for both images and text
- Unlimited undo lets you brainstorm to your heart's content!
- Split your text into individual words or letters and animate them one letter at a time!

MET031
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Bryce 4

NEW PRODUCT

Bryce 4 is dedicated to designing, rendering and animating breathtaking natural 3D worlds and abstract 3D sculptures. Bryce is the perfect application for beginners and advanced users, because it comes loaded with libraries of presets to use in your own work. As you become more proficient, Bryce allows you to easily create your own surface materials, skies and more-Bryce actually grows with you!

- Textured terrain export through real-time multi-resolution Export Lab
- Interactive movie previewing system
- Extensive collection of importers/exporters for increased interaction
- Create stunning skies with the tools available in the Sky Lab
- Use Bryce to build content for the Web, using a variety of authoring tools
- Hundreds of megabytes of content to explore!

Bryce 4 U/G
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Corel Gallery 1,000,000

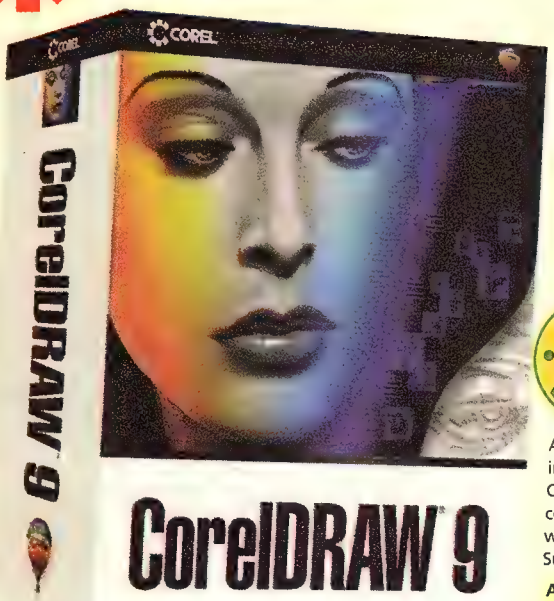
One Million is an easy-to-use, collection of clipart images, photos, fonts, sounds, and web images at a great price. Add excitement to any project with Corel GALLERY Magic 1,000,000. Find images with the new browser/search engine and alter them with powerful photo-editing tools. With over one million images* to choose from, this collection is ideal for Web pages, newsletters, flyers and more!

COR541

Make sure to ask for your gift when ordering

COREL® CorelDRAW 9 Graphics Suite

The world's number one PC illustration and image-editing program for professionals



CorelDRAW 9

Capture your creative spirit with CorelDRAW 9 Graphics Suite, the latest in a long line of award-winning illustration and image-editing software. This amazing suite gives you powerful interactive tools for creating dynamic special effects and bitmap images. Live Effects make it easy to experiment-without losing your previous work! Plus, top-rate output capabilities help you get professional results. Create complex gradient fills with the Mesh Fill tool and ensure accurate color sampling with the Eyedropper tool Enjoy expert page layout and text handling capabilities, including multi-page, multi-sized documents, full kerning control, frames and columns manipulation, Spell Check, Type Assist, Master Pages and more.

NEW VERSION

Corel PHOTO PAINT 9

Corel PHOTO PAINT 9, also included, combines exceptional image-editing and natural media brush tools.Choose from over 15 Artistic Media brush types featuring hundreds of options-or create your own brush types Easily import and edit multi-layered Adobe Photoshop PSD files-then export as PSD Publish to the Internet with integrated powerful Web design features, including animated GIF creation and QuickTime VR, and support for GIF 89a, JPG, PNG, TGA and PCX. With a full collection of design and Web features that integrate into your existing workflow, CorelDRAW 9 delivers incredible flexibility. CorelDRAW 9 Graphics Suite-experience the legend in PC graphics.

Added-Value Applications

Microsoft Visual Basic for Applications(VBA) 6 Bitstream Font Navigator 3.0 - industry-leading font management

Canto Cumulus 4.0 - industry-leading media asset management

CorelTRACE

Corel CAPTURE 9

TRUMATCH SwatchPrinter Software for Windows

Libraries

25,000 professional clipart

1,000 TrueType and Type 1 fonts

2,500 high-resolution photos

Applications

*CorelDRAW 9

*Corel PHOTO-PAINT 9

EDUCATIONAL pricing AVAILABLE

"CorelDRAW 9 mix[es] the lastest industry developments with refinemenets to its already solid features. Users of competitive software should seriously consider CorelDRAW 9. CorelDRAW 9 continues to provide an excellent value - on top of its strong features and usability"

Australian Reseller News, March 99

CorelDRAW 9
COR270
$749

CorelDRAW 9 Upgrade
COR271
$419

Buy DRAWSelect & Get $99 cash back when you buy Draw 9 Upgrade. Offer valid until 31 July 1999.

$99 CASH BACK LIMITED TIME

CorelDRAW Select Edition

Unleash your imagination with CorelDRAW Select Edition! This exceptional graphics suite gives you the tools you need for breathtaking results. Take advantage of CorelDRAW 7 and Corel PHOTO-PAINT 7 for graphic design, photo editing, special effects, illustration and page layout. Plus, a host of utilities makes the design process much more intuitive. CorelDRAW Select Edition-a powerful graphics solution for everyone!

COR542
$79

Core Applications
- CorelDRAW 7
- Corel PHOTO-PAINT 7

Supporting Utilities
- Kodak Digital Science
- Colour Management System
- Corel OCR-TRACE
- CorelSCAN
- Corel MULTIMEDIA MANAGER

Plus ...
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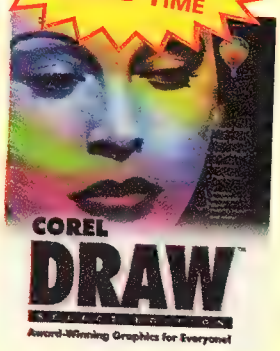
- 50 TrueType and Type 1 fonts
- Spellchecker
- Thesaurus

COREL®



Corel Print House Magic 4 Premium

Corel Print House Magic 4 Premium offers simple and creative solutions for home publishing and photo editing. Design projects for print or e-mail, including greeting cards, invitations and more, with customizable samples. Plus, follow step-by-step guides and use over 80,000 images to personalize material. It's easy to get started and the possibilities are endless.

Corel Print House Premium
COR544
$85

CorelPrint House Classic
COR545
$55

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Intelligent Graphics that Solve Real-World Business Problems

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The Intelligent Way to Create Powerful Technical Illustrations and Web Graphics

iGrafx Designer is the only complete toolset for technical and web graphics, with micron-accurate scale drawing and creative tools, and imaging graphics for publishing and the Web.

Features & Benefits

- Includes iGrafx Business.
- Comprehensive annotation - annotate files with associative dimension lines, angular and radial dimensions, area, volume and perimeter along with call outs.
- Transparent vector effects - make colours, gradients or bitmap and tiled fills transparent or gradually transparent.
- Output interactive iGrafx Designer files as interactive JAVA applets for use with any web browser.
- View, name and manage objects and layers with the object and layer browser.
- Sticky lines and customisable object association.
- Line styles for any type of technical illustration or fashion design.

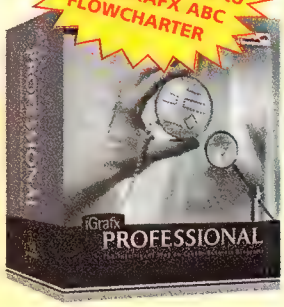
MGF027
$699

iGrafx Professional

Create Professional-Quality Business Diagrams... Your Way!

To make an impact and get your point across you need to communicate ideas, information and data using clear, instantly understandable visuals that give you and your company an edge. Create flowcharts, process maps, network diagrams and organisation charts faster and easier than ever before.

The power packed successor to MICROGRAFX ABC FLOWCHARTER



Features & Benefits

- Includes iGrafx Business.
- Multiple fonts, interline spacing, paragraphs and bullets within shapes - Create attractive, stylish charts that accurately reflect the information being communicated.
- Powerful Graphics Engine - allows addition of vector, raster and 3D into diagrams.
- Automatic offpage connectors - makes multi-page printed diagrams easier to read. When published as HTML, connectors become hyperlinks.
- VBA6 integration- rapidly create custom applications or extend existing application functionality using iGrafx Professional as your front end.
- Web Links - All documents and web pages can be linked and accessed on demand.
- Visio Filter - Import diagrams created with Visio.

MGF025
$699

CuteFTP

For Uploading Web Pages ...Fast!

CuteFTP is a Windows-based File Transfer Protocol (FTP) client that allows users to utilise the capabilities of FTP without having to know all the details of the protocol itself. This excellent FTP program has a lot more than just a pretty interface.

CORPORATE SITE LICENCES AVAILABLE

Key Features

- Drag and Drop Interface
- Fast Upload and Download
- Resume Upload and Download
- Remote File Editing
- Queue Transferring
- Bookmarks Remote Directories
- Clipboard Monitoring of FTP links
- Force Upper/Lower/Preserve File Case
- CuteFTP has an excellent array of features, including caching, stop command and cool interface. It is a must have upgrade that's definitely worth the download.
- CuteFTP version 2.0 is specially designed to take advantage of the MicrosoftÆ Windows NTÆ and Windows 98Æ operating systems. Microsoft, Windows, the Windows logo, and Windows NT are registered trademarks of the Microsoft Corporation.
- Keep Alive "Noop" Command
- Integrated HTML Editor
- Powerful Macros that Work
- Directory Compare for Web Site Maintenance

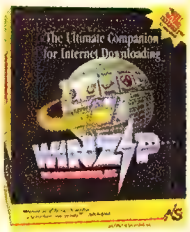
Stroud's

Designed for Microsoft Windows NT Windows 95

Cute FTP
GBS001
$79

WinZip 7.0

The ultimate Companion for Internet Downloading



"Probably one of the wisest investments a savvy windows user can make"

WinZip brings you the convenience of Windows to the use of ZIP files without requiring PKZIP and PKUNZIP. It features an intuitive point-and-click drag-and-drop interface for viewing, running, extracting, adding, deleting, and testing files ZIP, LZH, ARJ, and ARC files.

The Zip Advantage:

Zipping safely compresses the data in your files, so that your files occupy less space. This allows you to save more time by speeding up file transfers. "Zipping reduces the size of files, while "Unzipping" restores the files to their original form, completely unchanged.

The Archive Utility for Windows

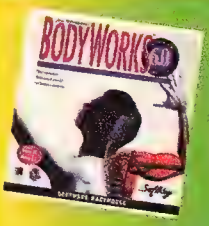
Internet Surfers:

WinZip makes it ieasy for you to access almost all of the compressed files you download from the Internet. WinZip features built-in support for Zip, TAR, gzip, Unix Compress, UUENCODE, BinHex, and MIME files.

Key Features

- Tight integration with the Windows 95/98/NT shell
- Drag & Drop to or from the explorer, or ZIP & UNZIP without leaving the Explorer
- Drop files on a printer to print
- With the easy to use tool bar you have the convenience of Windows when Zipping
- Built-in PKZIP-compatible ZIP and UNZIP (PKZIP and PKUNZIP are not required)
- Built-in support for the popular Internet file format TAR, gzip, Unix compress, Uuencode, Xxencoder, HinHex, and MIME
- Simplify file distribution by making files that unzip themselves
- Optional WinZip Wizard Interface
- Works with ARJ, ARC, and LZH files
- Optional virus scanning support
- Supports Windows 3.1, 95, and NT
- 32 and 16 Bit versions included.

WinZip 7.0
WIN119
$65



BODYWORKS v6

Whether you are looking for an in depth answer to a question, or just want to learn more about the human body - Bodyworks is the most informative and educational way to do it.

Includes:

- More than 80 rotating 3D models with audio
- Powerful search capabilities for over 400 000 words of text
- Web site directory and one button Internet access to current medical information

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McAfee Office

One solution for every PC problem! Office is the latest addition to the McAfee family of products. Designed to keep your PC running at optimum performance McAfee Office offers the PC user everything they could possibly need to maintain a healthy system. With full versions of VirusScan 4, First Aid 98, Nuts & Bolts 98, Guard Dog, Uninstaller, Year 2000 Toolbox, Oil Change, and Hurricane - McAfee Office offers over $600.00 worth of value for only $169.00.

MCA075

$169

We aim to stock at least 95% of ALL the items we sell

Fix-It Utilities 99

New from Mijenix, the makers of ZipMagic, FreeSpace and PowerDesk comes a brilliant new product to keep your PC in tip-top condition. Fix-It includes a myriad of utilities that check, clean, protect and secure your PC (Win 95/98 and Win NT).

Fix-It Utilities includes:

- Crash Protection
- Disk Fixer
- Disk Defragmentation
- Smarter Drive Optimising
- Clean & Optimise the Registry
- Hardware Diagnostics
- Bring back trashed files
- Virus Protection
- Year 2000 Tools
- Win 95, 98 & NT
- Emergency Disk Included!
- PowerDesk, valued at $59.95 bundled FREE
- From Mijenix the makers of ZipMagic
- Winner PC Week Best of Comdex Award
- Head to Head winner against Nuts & Bolts & Norton Utilities

MIJ001

$89

Fix-It Utilities 99 includes just about everything that you could need.. and it sells for under $100! Even if you have Norton's Utilities you will immediately see the additional benefits you get from Fix-It Utilities 99.

FileMaker Pro 4.1 Complete Your Office Suite

Filemaker Pro 4.1
FIL004
$359

Powerful relational database software

- NEW built-in intuitive ODBC SQL Query Dialog lets users query ODBC data sources without requiring SQL programming expertise.
- Share departmental and regional information with instant web publishing - no separate web server application required.
- Capture information from - and share information with - visitors to your web site using custom web publishing.
- Take advantage of FileMaker Connection Assistant in HomePage 3 software (not included) to design eye-catching, interactive web pages.
- Create relational solutions to increase the power and flexibility of your databases. Even sort information from related databases.
- Share files between Windows and MacOS versions.

Features:

- Runtime version of FileMaker on the CD.
- 101 ready-to-use database solutions built in FileMaker Pro - timesheets, vehicle logbooks, business card maker, invoice maker and more.
- $19.95 Refund when you purchase and register a full version of FileMaker Pro product

Filemaker Pro 4.1 Upgrade
FIL005
$235

Filemaker Pro 4,0 Developer Edition
FIL003
$825

Filemaker Pro 101 Essential Database Solutions
CLA060
$19.95

Wasting too much time on the road?

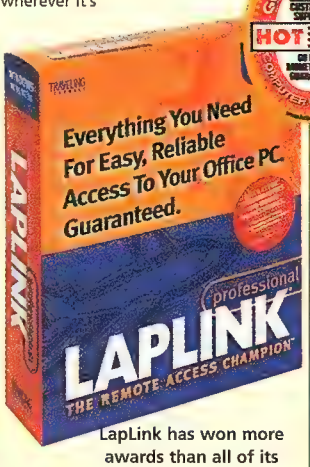
Get LapLink Professional and get productive

LapLink Pro lets you work whenever and wherever it's convenient for you. When you need to share information between an office PC, a laptop, or your home PC while travelling or working away from the office, LapLink Pro will get you connected.

LapLink Pro sets the standard in usability and is the #1 rated choice for easy, speedy and reliable remote control and file transfer by mobile professionals and telecommuters.

When you take a look at the features this product offers, it's no wonder that LapLink Pro is agreed upon by the experts to be the "best remote control access solution today":

- Print redirection from remote PC to local printer, or to a remote PC's printer
- Optimised for Windows 98
- Supports USB cable for faster file transfer
- Includes bonus Windows CE remote control software
- Single mode operation - no need to set "guest" or "host" modes
- Adaptive compression automatically gives optimal speed over all connections
- Integrated scheduler for Windows 98, 95,NT
- Smart Install configures all devices automatically - no user intervention required
- Compatible with Windows 3.1, 95, 98, and NT



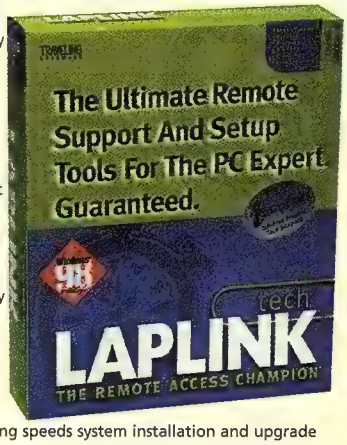
LapLink has won more awards than all of its competitors put together.

LapLink Professional
LAP011
$174

Laplink Tech

Put the ultimate support and setup tools to work for you

LapLink Tech provides the tools you need to remotely support customers, set up and upgrade PCs quickly and defend against viruses - all in one complete solution. No matter where your customers are or where you work, LapLink Tech offers you the flexibility to support your customers whenever they need it. LapLink Tech is designed for Windows 95 and NT 4.0, and is completely compatible with Windows 98. It also works with any earlier version of LapLink for Windows or Remote DeskLink.



Its Remote Control and File Transfer capabilities mean you won't have to leave your desk to work with remote users. Disk cloning speeds system installation and upgrade tasks, while virus protection defends your system. Plus our industry-leading useability makes sure you gain benefits right away. LapLink offers all the key tools to make remote support and system setup a snap:

- Remote Control
- Simultaneous Voice Chat
- File Transfer
- Automated File Synchronization
- Print Redirection
- Security
- Cross-platform compatibility
- Disk Cloning
- Virus Protection - WinGuard

LapLink Tech
LAP009
$269

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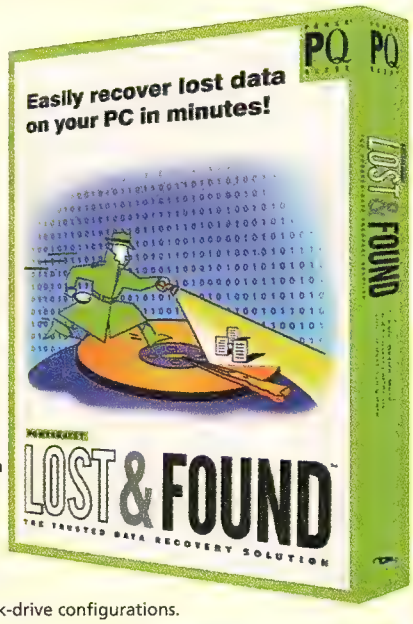
Lost & Found

Automatically recover and restore lost data!

Your data is priceless. Whether it be the last five years of your financial records or Grandma Brown's favourite recipes, if anything happens to them - like deletion, virus infection, hardware failure - replacement would be difficult or even impossible. Fortunately, with Lost & Found from PowerQuest, restoring lost data is just a few keystrokes away. Rather than spending thousands of dollars to send your hard drive to a data recovery centre, Lost & Found lets you automatically recover and restore data after accidental (or even intentional) data loss, or from corrupted media caused by a disk crash or logical system failure. Our patent-pending technology will even recover data if the partition has been reformatted or if the FAT tables have been destroyed! In fact, as long as your disk is still spinning, Lost & Found can locate and recover almost any file, anywhere on your disk.



What makes Lost & Found an easier, more effective data recovery system?

Unlike other data repair and recovery software solutions, Lost & Found:

- Does not need to be installed prior to the recovery of lost or corrupted files.
- Does not alter, write to or attempt to repair critical sectors on the damaged disk, increasing the chances of a successful data recovery.
- Recovers your files even after reformatting, as long as you have not written over them.
- Performs a disk analysis and reports the odds of recovery via colour coding. Allows you to save data to a network drive.
- Offers exceptional data error handling, allowing you to recover files from disks that have suffered head crashes or other damage.
- Recovers lost or damaged data even if the critical sectors, such as the boot sector or root directory, are corrupted or missing.
- Recovers data from both FAT16 and FAT32 partitions. Works with all possible IDE, EIDE and SCSI disk-drive configurations.

Common causes of data loss on PCs:

Software		Hardware	
Buggy software	Installation glitches	Electromechanical failure	Circuit failure
Viruses	Hackers	Head crash	CPU failure
Operator error	Backup software failure	Controller malfunction	Environmental factors
Software failure	Deletes	Power failure	Media damage
Application conflicts		Tape-drive failure	

POW041
$89

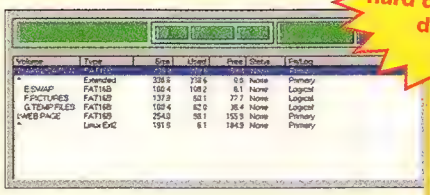
PartitionMagic 4.0

Reclaim up to 40% of your hard disk & organise your hard drive!

PRESTO! Optimise your hard drive without destroying data

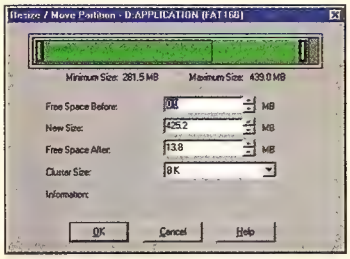
Reclaim Wasted Disk Space

Everyone wants to get the most they can out of their hard disk. But, up to 40 percent of your hard disk may be totally wasted due to inefficient storage methods. PartitionMagic 4.0 increases your usable disk space by shrinking large FAT partitions and restructuring cluster sizes to reclaim up to hundreds of megabytes of lost disk space.



Safely Run Multiple OS's

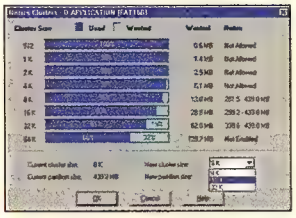
PartitionMagic 4.0 makes it easy to run multiple operating systems on the same machine without compatibility problems. Explore the new world of Windows 95,98 or NT while still relying on the security of your current operating system. And PartitionMagic 4.0 includes BootMagic from IBM, making it easy to select an operating system every time you boot your computer.



Create, resize and delete partitions with the drag of a mouse.

Organise and Protect Data

Create a physically separate partition for your valuable data files to protect them from potentially unstable applications. This simplifies backups, especially to devices like ZIP™ drives. And with the transport feature of Uninstaller™, PartitionMagic 4.0 lets you easily move applications from one partition to another with their files and operating system settings in place.



What the press say..

"Unique, dazzling and indispensable, PartitionMagic is a must have product in an era of larger and larger hard disks"

PC Magazine

PartitionMagic
HARD-DISK PARTITIONING ON THE FLY

PartitionMagic 4.0
POW034
$99

PartitionMagic 4.0 Upgrade
POW033
$59

Now with BootMagic included!

System Commander Deluxe

Now you no longer have to fear losing valuable time and data while working out the kinks with your new operating system (OS). System Commander Deluxe gives you all the advantages of System Commander, plus these exclusive features:

- OS Wizard creates the best configuration for your new operating system.
- Creates and resizes partitions with no risk too your data, automatically!
- Universal mouse support

VC0002

$125

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SYMANTEC.

Gold Edition

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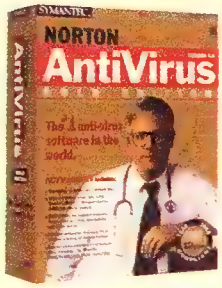


New features in version 5.0 let you quarantine infected files, easily get help with viruses directly from Symantec researchers, and it automatically protects you against viruses as well as malicious ActiveX and Java applets.

- **Quarantine an infected file**, and it's safe to store on your computer without fear of spreading the virus. The new Scan and Deliver wizard makes it easy to send quarantined and other suspicious files to Symantec for evaluation. The virus experts at the Symantec AntiVirus Research Center (SARC) will reply swiftly with helpful advice and any needed anti-virus definitions.
- **With version 5.0**, the software can also detect dangerous forms of ActiveX code, Java applets, and Trojan horses, giving you the industry's most complete protection against malicious code.
- **Bloodhound technology** uses advanced heuristic logic to "sniff out" and eliminate new viruses even without updated virus definitions.

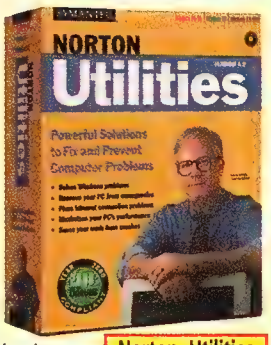
As always, Norton AntiVirus can run constantly in the background to keep your computer safe from viruses that might come in from e-mail attachments, Internet downloads, floppy diskettes, software CDs, or a network. And it can be scheduled to automatically retrieve new anti-virus definitions from Symantec as often as once a week.

Norton AntiVirus Gold v5
NOR090
$85

Norton Utilities™ 4.0

SYMANTEC.

Unrivaled problem solving power
Unrivaled Control



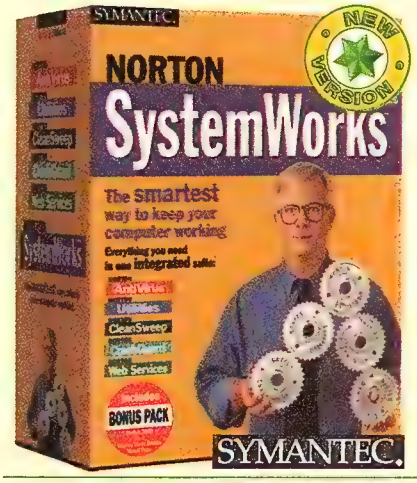
- Finds, fixes and prevents problems
- Monitors and maintains your system
- Ensures great performance
- Rescues and recovers information
- Allows custom configuration
- Boots emergency recovery program from the Norton Utilities CD
- Deletes files permanently

Norton Utilities provides powerful solutions to fix and prevent computer problems. It gives you the right tools plus expert advice to tackle each job. The new Norton System Check feature runs an entire battery of tests with a single click. Norton Zip Rescue and the Rescue Recovery Wizard help you recover from emergencies. Norton Connection Doctor makes sure your modem is working correctly, and Norton System Doctor and Speed Disk maximize system and hard drive performance. You even get Norton CrashGuard, a $29.95 value. No wonder that Norton Utilities offers more effective problem solving than any other product!

Norton Utilities Gold Edition
NOR096
$119

Norton System Works™ 2.0

Year 2000 Compliant



Norton SystemWorks™ 2.0 combines the first integrated utility suite with advanced tools for PC experts – all for one great price. The suite includes the latest complete versions of Symantec's award-winning utility products. These state-of-the-art products work together to both fix and prevent system problems.

- **Norton AntiVirus™ 5.0** – offers the world's most popular and most powerful anti-virus capabilities – including the ability to isolate infected files before they can damage your system.
- **Norton Utilities™ 4.0** – is the industry leader in detecting, repairing, and preventing hardware and software problems. It also optimises your computer to run at peak efficiency.
- **Norton CleanSweep™ 4.5** – recovers disk space by safely and completely removing unnecessary programs and files.
- **Norton CrashGuard™ 4.0** – automatically protects against system crashes and screen freezes.
- **Norton Web Services™** – gives you online access to the latest hardware drivers and software updates.

Free Bonus Pack Worth OVER $500 includes:

- **Symantec Visual Page™** – a web development tool.
- **Zip-It™** – compresses and extracts zip files
- **Norton 2000™** - to make your PC and data "millenium ready"
- **WinFax™ Basic Edition** sends and receives faxes directly from your computer.

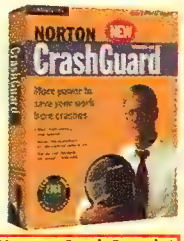
NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE NORTON GHOST

Norton SystemWorks 2.0
NOR097
$179

Norton CrashGuard™ 4.0

SYMANTEC.

Don't risk losing important documents and hours of work! Norton CrashGuard 4.0 gives you more power to save your work from crashes. It stops crashes from becoming major disasters by helping you save your open documents and get back to work quickly. In fact, you can usually resume your work without rebooting your system. The Crash Assistant feature guides you through each crash situation step by step - even offering multiple recovery options to maximise your chances of successfully saving your work. There's no better software than Norton CrashGuard for recovering from application crashes, application freezes and system crashes.

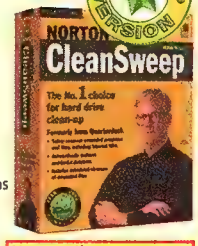


Norton CrashGuard 4
SYM199
$39

Norton CleanSweep™ 4.5

SYMANTEC.

Clean up your hard drive with the award-winning leader: Norton CleanSweep from Symantec. It improves your PC's performance by completely and safely removing unneeded items while protecting vital programs, files, and Windows settings. It even gets rid of extraneous cookies, ActiveX controls, plug-ins, downloaded programs, and other Internet files. A graphical interface and intuitive wizards make Norton CleanSweep as easy to use as it is thorough. In short, Norton CleanSweep is the quickest, easiest, safest way to recover hard drive space. Don't take risks with your computer-trust the Norton name for safe, complete hard drive cleanup.



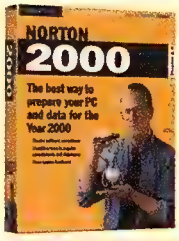
Norton Cleansweep 4.5
NOR095
$59

Norton™2000

SYMANTEC.

Prevent damage to your company's desktop PCs and data from Year 2000 problems

In assessing Year 2000 exposure, don't forget that date anomalies in desktop PCs or applications can cause local problems or spread to the mainframe. Norton 2000 gives you an easy, reliable, and flexible way to address Year 2000 anomalies at the desktop level, in applications, and in system clocks and BIOS.



Features:

- Finds Y2K anomalies in desktop applications.
- Tests and fixes system BIOS and clocks.
- Automatically updates database of Y2K compliant software.
- Supports central installation and administration.
- Provides flexible scanning/reporting options.

Norton 2000
NOR086
$65

ALL PRICES INCLUDE SALES TAX. PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE, SEE PAGE 55 FOR TERMS & CONDITIONS

For the cost of a local call **EXPRESS Orderline 1300 300 003**

Sales Lines Open 8.30am 'til 7pm (EST) Monday to Friday and 10am 'til 3pm (EST) Saturday.

ONE STOP COMPUTER SHOPPING

COMMUNICATIONS COMMUNICATIONS COMMUNICATIONS COMMUNICATIONS

SAVE $$$ WITH THESE AMAZING SOHO BUNDLES FROM SYMANTEC.

RECEIVE A FREE COPY OF NORTON 2000 WITH EVERY SPECIAL SOHO BUNDLE

PCANYWHERE 8.0	+	NORTON UTILITIES 4.0	=	SYM206 $245	Save $154
WINFAX PRO 9.0	+	ACT! 4.0	=	SYM207 $175	Save $174
TALKWORKS PRO 2.0	+	ACT! 4.0	=	SYM208 $245	Save $194

WinFax PRO 9.0

The world's #1 choice for hassle-free faxing!

SYMANTEC.

WinFax PRO 9.0 software takes Symantec's industry-leading fax solution to new levels of flexibility, reliability, and ease of use.

With WinFax PRO 9.0

- Small businesses can look more professional by sending crisp laser-quality faxes.
- Workgroups can save money by sharing a fax modem and phone line though a non-designated fax host.
- It can also notify mobile users via pager or PCS cell phone as soon as an important fax arrives, or automatically forward faxes to another fax number or an e-mail address.

WinFax Pro 9.0
SYM191
$129

TalkWorks PRO 2.0

Give your small business a professional voice

SYMANTEC.

TalkWorks PRO 2.0 from Symantec brings professional voice and fax messaging to home offices and very small businesses. Its integrated capabilities keep you in touch with your customers 24 hours a day.

With TalkWorks Pro 2.0

- Fax-on-demand allows you to provide your customers with information at any time.
- Set up separate mailboxes for employees, fax on demand, and other purposes.
- Get remote notification when a voice or fax message arrives.
- Track faxes and voice calls.
- TalkWorks PRO 2.0 even supports Caller ID*.

*Caller ID service from telephone service provider and caller ID-capable modem required for some features.

TalkWorks PRO 2.0
SYM193
$219

pcAnywhere™ 8.0

Easy remote access to PCs from anywhere, anytime!

SYMANTEC.

pcAnywhere 32 for Windows 95 and Windows NT is the fastest, easiest way to remotely access PCs, applications, and information from a home or office PC or network. Make quick, easy connections via modem, network, or the Internet to check e-mail, remotely support clients, download files, or simply run remote applications. Expanded Internet support, with SmartList and advanced security options, allows you to easily and safely access your PC while saving on long-distance phone charges.

Features

- Enhanced performance – 20% faster than previous versions.
- AutoXfer – Automatic file transfer and synchronisation quickly and easily provides you with the most current version of remote files.
- SpeedSend – Transfer only the parts of the files that have changed. Fast.

EDUCATIONAL pricing AVAILABLE

pcAnywhere V8.0
SYM170
$195

ACT! ™ 4.0

SYMANTEC.

Complete Customer & Calendar Management

Nobody knows your customers better than you do. The trick is remembering the right things about them at precisely the right time. ACT!™ 4.0 puts the information you need within easy reach - phone numbers, addresses, order history, even invoice dates.

- Leverage the Internet
- Stay connected online
- Become a genius with details
- Manage every day more efficiently

Features

- Now includes business templates for major businesses across Australia.
- Flexible customer database - Get started right away with 70 preset user fields.
- Customise the database with your own fields, custom screens and on-line forms.
- Attach files, such as spreadsheets and documents, to your contacts.

Act! 4.0
SYM179
$155

SYMANTEC VALUE LICENCE PROGRAM

SAVE TIME AND MONEY

SYMANTEC. VALUE LICENCE PROGRAM

The Symantec Value Licence Program has been designed to make purchasing Symantec products quicker and cheaper. Just one phone call to our sales team could get you significant discounts for your organisation. Reordering is then a simple case of calling us and quoting the number from your certificate.

Designed for companies and organisations ordering more than 10 licenses, the Symantec Value License Program ensures you get the discounts you deserve.

Full range of delivery options;
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*Next day *
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*where applicable

JUSTIN

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Sydney 2015

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www.iswh.com.au

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MORE PRODUCTS

MORE ON DEALS

Thousands of products, all at the best prices. Whether you are looking for information, or want to place an order, make sure you pay us a visit first!

MASSIVE RANGE

We aim to stock at least 95% of ALL the items we sell

Australia on Disc

May 99 Release Out Now !!!

Australia's complete Electronic Phone Book just got even better

Australia On Disc, the complete set of Australian business and residential telephone directories on CD-ROM, now includes new Geographical mapping software, which gives users have the added ability to graphically map search results.

AOD continues to offer access to over 7.3 million names, addresses and telephone numbers, both business and residential, in a fully exportable version which can be used for direct mail, telemarketing or market research.

- **All 55 National Telephone Directories**
- **Over 1.28 Million Business Listings**
- **Over 6.1 Million Residential Listings**
- **Over 182,000 fax numbers**
- **All on CD-ROM on your own PC**
- **PLUS New mapping Software Included**

NEW Features for November 98:

- Contains Major Updates including all Capital City Residential listings
- All books are now 1998 Editions
- Over 182,000 fax numbers!
- NEW Dedupe on Name & Address or Name & Phone Number!
- NEW Custom report Generation!
- Enhanced Mapping software now includes cut & paste, printing & NEW Territory Management feature!

Key features:

- Radius searches from mapping software
- Select postcodes using point and click from a map
- 'Wild Card' searches
- Thematic shading of search results on map
- Design your own reports
- Mailing label generation and printing
- Select record tagging
- Random record tagging
- Save search facility
- List merge facility
- Export to ASCII format
- Export to Tracker (selected versions)
- De-duplication of records
- Auto-dialing facility
- Field lookup tables
- Word searches within fields
- Standard business classifications
- AND MUCH MORE!

Australia on Disc - Business
DDD001
$329

Australia on Disc - Residential
DDD002
$329

Australia on Disc - Business & Residential
DDD003
$529

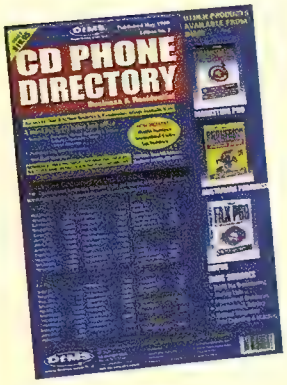
The only thing better than having so much information at your fingertips... is discovering the best ways to make use of it!

DtMS
Desktop Marketing Systems Pty Ltd

CD Phone Directory

Access to Over 8 Million Business & Residential Listings Australia Wide

Imagine how much easier and faster it would be if you had virtually every Australian business & residential telephone number on your own PC! Only DtMS CD Phone Directory puts Australia at your fingertips!



Now includes Mobile Numbers, International Codes, Fax Numbers, as well as:

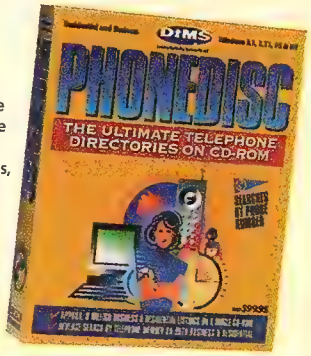
- ✔ Gives instant access to over 8,000,000 business and residential listings across Australia!
- ✔ Search by Company Name, Line of Business, Surname & Initial, Suburb, State or Postcode!
- ✔ Provides you with the tools to find friends, relatives or all those people you've wondered about... easily and quickly!

DTM011
$19

Phonedisc

With Search by Phone Number!

A powerful tool for finding what you want and who you want in seconds! Imagine the advantages of a telephone directory that not only gives you much more information, but gives it to you the way you want it! For businesses or home use, Phone Disc provides a powerful tool for locating new clients, suppliers, friends, relatives or virtually anyone, anywhere with just a few easy keystrokes.



Features:

- ✔ Powerful reverse search capabilities
- ✔ Search by Name, Company, Initials, Surname, Suburb, state, Postcode or line of Business.
- ✔ Full Boolean search capability
- ✔ "Sounds-like" facility
- ✔ Auto dialer facility
- ✔ Contact sensitive on-line help
- ✔ Copy entries to the Window Clipboard
- ✔ And much, much more!

DTM001
$89

ONE STOP COMPUTER SHOPPING

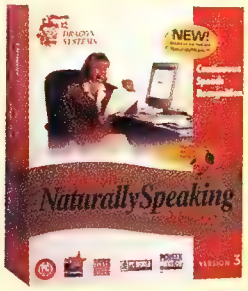
SOFT WARE ONE STOP

VOICE RECOGNITION VOICE RECOGNITION VOICE RECOGNITION VOICE RECOGNITION

Dragon Naturally Speaking

Ground breaking technology, award winning performance

Dragon Naturally Speaking is the world's first and foremost software product that recognises and creates text from normal continuous speech. Dragon Naturally Speaking is acclaimed in competitive reviews for its accuracy, performance and ease of use. Just talk to your PC naturally, at a conversational pace. Dictate entire paragraphs at a time. Write email messages, create reports, draft letters, and edit proposals just by speaking.



Dragon Naturally Speaking Preferred

All the features of Dragon Naturally Speaking Standard, plus:

BEST SELLER

- Even Higher Accuracy - Industry-leading BestMatch recognition technology reduces errors by 25% to achieve higher accuracy than ever before.
- New, Even Larger Vocabulary - 42,000 active words (230,000 total)
- Text-To-Speech - Listen to your own documents or other files such as e-mail read aloud to you.
- Dictation Playback - Listen to a recording of what you said before you edit, in order to keep your original intent.

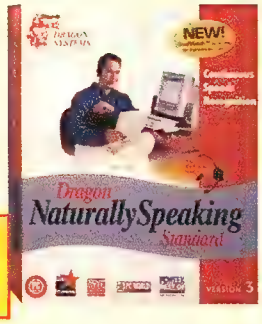
DRG003 **$289**

Dragon Naturally Speaking Standard

Features

- Immediate Recognition - Your words appear immediately on your screen and in your document.
- Integration with Microsoft Word 97 and Corel WordPerfect 8 - with Dragon Systems editing technology create, edit anytime, and format any word or phrase easily using intuitive commands.
- New, Larger Vocabulary - more than 35,000 active words (230,000 total). Personalise your vocabulary by automatically adding new words, specialised terms, and names in a few simple steps.
- Up to 160 Words per minute
- Accuracy as high as 98%
- Hands-Free Editing - Move your mouse pointer with pinpoint accuracy, click buttons, 'press' any key on the keyboard, and activate menus by simple voice commands.
- Text Shorthands - Quickly insert frequently used phrases and sentences just by saying a single word or phrase.
- True Continuous Speech - just speak naturally, without the need to pause between words
- Learns most speaking styles, even strong accents, and supports multiple users
- Includes high quality microphone

DRG004 **$179**



Dragon Naturally Speaking Mobile

Create text anywhere

Dragon Naturally Speaking Mobile is the complete speech recognition system for people on the move.

- Holds up to 40 mins of continuous speech on built in memory cards.
- An additional 80 mins can be stored on removable memory cards.
- Speak at up to 160 words per minute.
- File your recordings into folders for ease of use.

Don't Be Chained To Your PC. Talk To Your PC Anytime Anywhere.

Its so easy!!

Press 'Record' button and speak into the recorder's built-in microphone.

Select which recordings you want transferred to the PC.

Connect the recorder to your PC using the included cable.

Press 'Transcribe' and your recorded speech appears as the text on your screen and in your document.

DRG006 **$649**

Major & Corporate Account Customers

International Software Warehouse offers specialist corporate and major account officers to assist you in major purchasing. Call for information on large order discounts.

Our price pledge to remain the cheapest supplier also applies to the entire range of licensing, including MOLP.

We will not be beaten on price! We cut prices not corners

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Sydney 2015

ONE STOP COMPUTER SHOPPING

Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2

So you know what the millennium bug is. What next?

The Millennium Buster range has been developed to meet the standards as defined by the British Standards Institute Code of Year 2000 Conformity (DISC PD 2000-1). This code has been adopted word for word by Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand (SAA/SNZ MP77:1998), so you can buy with confidence.

So cleverly written it fits on one floppy disk!

Why pay for a Year 2000 fix* if you don't need one? Use the Millennium Buster 1 test program to see if your PC is Year 2000 compliant. The Millennium Buster 1 test program will check ALL of a PCs' time keeping components, including:

- Operating System Clock
- BIOS Chip
- Real Time Clock (RTC) Chip

It will test for Year 2000 compliance as well as testing for leap year recognition. At only $29, can you afford not to test your PC?

Single User
MIL100
$29
Multi User
Call for pricing

FIX

If you have performed the Millennium Buster 1 test, and have found that you need a software fix* for your hardware, then Millennium Buster 2 is the answer. Again, Millennium Buster 2 works with ALL PC time keeping components. There are very few programs that work with a computers' Real Time Clock. Millennium Buster 2 does, as well as working with leap year recognition. Installing new software? No problem. With the in built Re-Test option, you can check your PC as often as you like.

Single User
MIL101
$89
Multi User
Call for pricing

CORPORATE

MBNET - the Millennium Buster Client Server program for experienced network administrators. MBNet contains both the test and the fix*, which can be run on all workstations from the server. For more information, please call our Major Accounts team on 1 300 300 003.

* all product information as supplied by manufacturer

5 User Client Server
MIL102
$189
Call for extra user details

New Hardware Fix!*

What if you want a hardware fix* to make you Year 2000 compliant? You could spend $3000 on a new PC, but it may not be compliant. You could spend $700 on a new motherboard and processor, but again it does not guarantee compliancy, and also means that you will have to re-install all your hardware, drivers etc. Or you could spend $595 on the Millennium Buster Year 2000 Enhancement Card.

The Year 2000 PC Enhancement Card is a highly sophisticated card that utilises the latest Dallas Semiconductor fully Year 2000 compliant Clock Chip. An ISA card that installs in most PCs in approximately 10 minutes, it is recommended for use in network servers and mission critical PCs.

MIL103 Millennium Buster PC Enhancement Card
$585
Call for volume pricing

ATTENTION I.T. MANAGERS: WORRIED ABOUT THE MILLENNIUM BUG AND YOUR NETWORK? CALL OUR MAJOR ACCOUNTS TEAM ON 1 300 300 003. MILLENNIUM BUSTER IS USED BY MANY BLUE CHIP ORGANISATIONS.

VirusScan 4.0

Detect and Destroy ALL viruses. McAfee Macro Hunter technology safeguards your PC from all virus types and from all potential sources. Virus Scan stops destructive Active X and Java applets often downloaded from the Internet. It scans all your e-mail attachments right inside your mailbox, so viruses never reach your system. SecureCast prepares you by using Internet "Push" technology to deliver virus updates directly to your desktop, automatically for the life of the product.

MCA070
$69
FREE GIFT

Make sure to ask for your gift when ordering

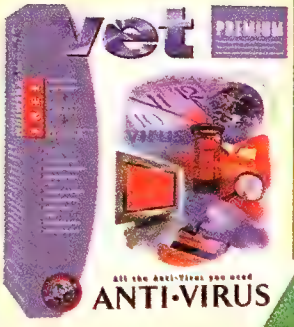
VET Anti-Virus

VET PREMIUM

Virus Protection For All Platforms

Essential Protection

Virus protection has never been as essential as it is today. New viruses are continuing to appear at an ever-increasing rate and new types of viruses - for instance Word macro viruses - regularly take the PC World by surprise. The internet, intranets, networks, Email, shared disks and shared PCs all enable viruses to spread. Vet Anti-Virus Software provides you with the protection you need for your system, whether it is a stand-alone PC or a complex network of PCs in an organisation.



This combines all the advantages of Vet Net Surfer with the additional benefit of mailed quarterly upgrades - delivered to your home or office. The choice is yours - Vet Net Surfer with on-line upgrades, or Vet Premium with on-line and mailed upgrades. Both offer complete virus protection for you PC.

- Unlimited phone and email support
- Unlimited access to upgrades on-line
- Upgrades mailed quarterly direct to you

AUSTRALIAN MADE

Vet Net Surfer (updates via Internet only)
VET006
$75

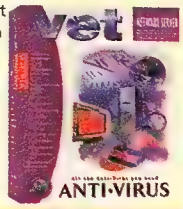
Vet Premium
VET 007
$89

NETWARE or NT SERVER

Year 2000 Compliant

Year 2000 compliant

This is a server specific product offering protection which is simple to install and use. It offers three modes of operation - a periodic scanner for pre-schedule virus checks, an "On Demand" scanner which can be initiated at any time if a virus is suspected, and automatic, or "On-Access" checking so that users are protected without having to initiate a scan. Each option is highly configurable giving the administrator flexibility to set it up to suit their conditions and system.



- Unlimited phone and email support
- Unlimited access to upgrades on-line
- Upgrades mailed quarterly direct to you

Vet NT Server
VET 009
$449

Vet Netware Server
VET 008
$449

CORPORATE

Complete virus protection for your server and workstations all in one product. You will receive all the benefits of a multiple workstation license together with protection for the heart of your network. Vet Corporate is available for 1 server - choose from either NetWare or NT Server - and for 10, 25, 50, 100 and 200 PCs, for Windows 3.x, Windows 95 and Windows NT Workstation.

Volume Pricing Call to see how much you can save

Vet Corporate 10 user & server
VET 013
$799

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ONE STOP COMPUTER SHOPPING

Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K Y2K

Check 2000 PC Deluxe

The Ultimate tool for beating the Millennium Bug!

Greenwich Mean Time

Check 2000 PC Deluxe is the only integrated year 2000 testing tool that addresses all five "at-risk" layers of your PC. You can correct the BIOS, test the operating system and software programs, scan your data files, and flag data importing issues.

TOP SELLING

CHECK 2000 PC Deluxe gives you more:

- ✔ Helps find and correct the year 2000 hardware (BIOS) problems on the spot
- ✔ Flags problems in software programs, includes the world's largest database of remediation advice
- ✔ Lets you check new data from e-mail, internet, disks, CDs and other outside sources as often as you like
- ✔ Scans all the way down to individual cells in spreadsheets, databases, and other data files
- ✔ Helps you prioritize software and data problems for timely repair

Greenwich Mean Time

GRE002

$85

"Today CHECK 2000 is established as the standard by which other year 2000 products are measured"
Microsoft Y2K Resource Centre.

1 Test and Help Correct BIOS
A simple pass/fail screen tells you if your BIOS passes or fails the critical date tests. Then Check 2000 PC Deluxe will help correct the problems for you in 98% of BIOS types.

2 Check your operating System
Check 2000 will test your operating system, identify any 2-digit settings, and then recommend the changes you need to make. We check all of the popular operating systems, including: Win95/98, NT 4.0.

3 Analyse Software Programs
Every application treats date-dependent data a little differently.
Check 2000 PC Deluxe will do an inventory on your application programs - and show you which programs are most at risk (usually it's spreadsheets, databases, and schedulers). Year 2000 advice is provided on over 5,000 software programs. The knowledge base built into Check 2000 PC Deluxe recognises over 20,000 programs.

4 Pinpoint and Prevent Data Problems
Drill all the way down to the individual cells in spreadsheets- and other data files-that could cause problems. Correct the data as it's revealed to you by Check 2000, without switching between software programs. You can run the Data Scanner at any time, to continually reveal any new date-dependent data that comes into your PC.

5 Keep Checking Imported Data
Check 2000 PC Deluxe identifies software programs that import and export data. Then Data Scanner finds date-dependent data so you can correct it.

Cut out or photocopy and send to: International Software Warehouse Pty., 13 Bradford Estate, 10 Bradford Street, Alexandria, Sydney, NSW 2015

Qty	Reference	Description	Price
1	FREE GIFT!	Don't forget to ask!	FREE

Please charge my VISA / MasterCard / AMEX / Bank Card

Exp. Date

Remember! free gifts are not sent unless requested.

Delivery

TOTAL

Please indicate where you heard about us...

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Signature _____ Name.....

Tel No. (Daytime Only) _____ Fax No. .....

To Order:

- **Fill in the above & Fax us on 02 9700 8801**

or

- **Call us on 1300 300 003**

or

- **Visit our Website at www.iswh.com.au**

- Up to 3kg = $6.95
- 3kg to 20kg = $9.95
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- NEW! Same Day Sydney Express = $Call 1300 300 003

* prices may vary

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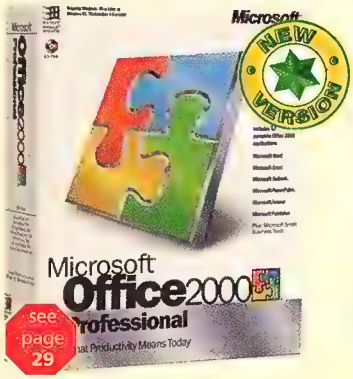

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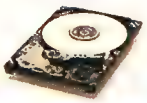

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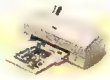

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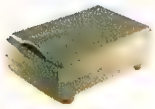

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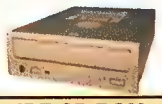

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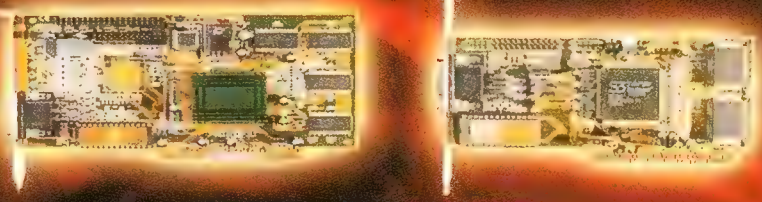

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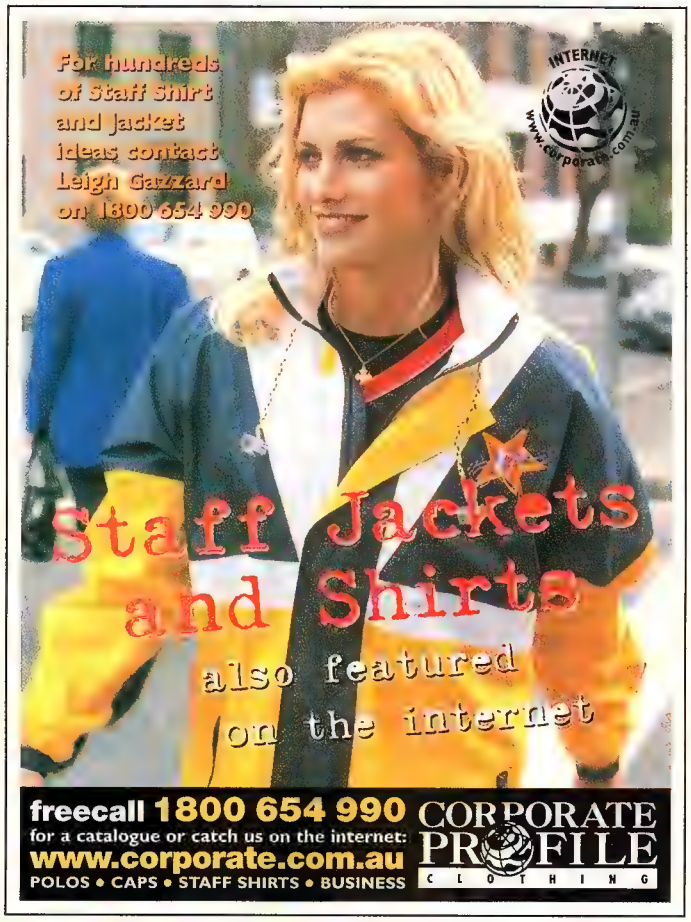

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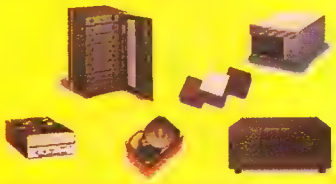

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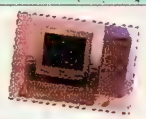

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HP Deskjet 600,660,690,692,694 inks not sanme as 500's	K2BK *	9 *	K10CLR	12
HP Deskjet 720, 722, 890, 893	K3BK	6	K22CLR	6
HP Deskjet 850, 855 870 (colours not same as 700/720)	K3BK	6	K11CLR	6
HP Deskjet 1600	K5BK	6	K12CLR	3
HP Desljet 1200	K5BK	6	K12CLR	3
HP Deskjet, Deskwriter, Portable, Designjet, 300, 320	K1BK *	9 *	K9CLR	12
HP PHOTOSMART Star & Moon combined			K25CLR	6
Canon BJ-30, BJC-70, BJC-80	K7BK	60	K1CLR	30
Canon BC-01, BC-02, BJC-210	K8BK	7	K2CLR	12 *
Canon BC-03, BC-3X (fax) BJC-210sp, BJC-255sp	K4BK	7	K2CLR	12 *
Canon BC-06 photo			K23CLR	6
Canon BJ-300, 330	K9BK	7		
Canon BJC-600, 610, 620	K10BK	15	K3CLR	8
Canon BJC-800, 820, 880	K11BK	12	K4CLR	4
Canon BJC-4000,4100,4200,4300,4550,5000,5500 BCI-21	K12BK	50	K5CLR	30
Canon BJC-4000,4100,4200,4300,4550,5000,5500 BC-20	K12BK	9 *	K5CLR	30
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Canon BJC 7000, 7100 photo BC-62			K15CLR	12 *
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Epson Stylus Color 200 / 820 Color 11 / 11s	K16BK	12	K7CLR	12 *
Epson Stylus 400 / 800 / 800+ / 1000	K14BK	12	K6CLR	12
Epson Stylus Color Pro / XL	K15BK	8	K6CLR	6
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Lexmark/IBM 2030 / 2050 waterproof	K24BK	6	K13CLR	12
Lexmark/IBM 2030 / 2050 photo			K29CLR	12
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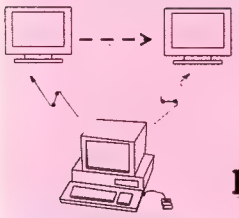

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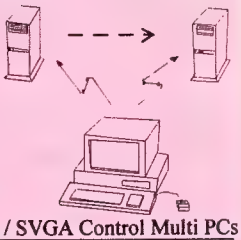

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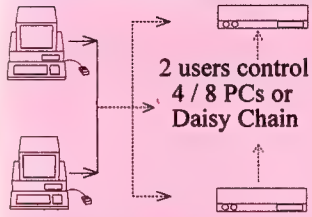

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Canon/Apple BJC-4000/5500	BC-20	3	04BB
Canon BJC-7000 & Optimiser	BC-60	2	52BB
HP Deskjet 400/500 Series	51626A/33M	2/3	16BB
HP Deskjet 600 Series	51629A	2	14BB
HP Deskjet 800 Series/1600c	51645A	2	12BB
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Epson Stylus Colour 820/11/11s	SO20047	4	20BB
Epson Colour 400/500/600	SO20093	6	18BB
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Canon BJC-7000	BCI-61	3x2	51BB
HP Deskjet 400/500 Series	51625A	3x5	15BB
HP Deskjet 600 Series	51649A	3x5	13BB
HP Deskjet 800 Series/1600c	51641A	3x3	11BB
Epson Stylus 200/500	SO20097	3x5	19BB
Epson Stylus Colour/Pro/XL	SO20036/66	3x4/2	21BB
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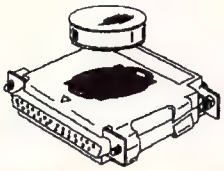

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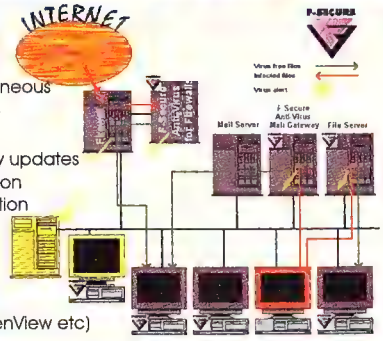

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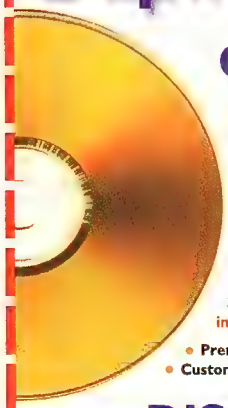

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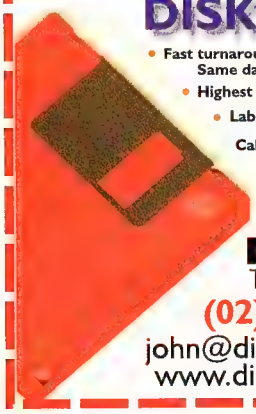

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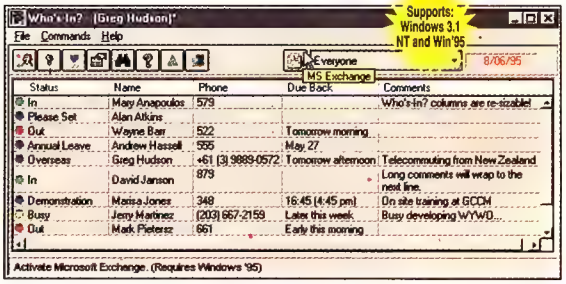

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DILBERT ON THE BOX

→ Some bugs can get away with being called "undocumented features" and some, well, can't. At Apple's recent developer conference in the US, it was revealed that one bug in the Mac operating system is indeed documented but cannot be remedied. If users try to use certain characters in filenames, the Mac won't let them because it reserves those characters for OS functions. Different characters are substituted instead. One character, a single closing quotation mark, is swapped for a lower case letter "a" — not because the Mac needs the single closing quote mark, but simply because someone, somewhere, entered the wrong value into the Mac's character-map. A few years ago, according to an Apple developer, the company tried to fix the bug, but the fix resulted in perfectly good hard drives reporting that they were corrupt. So now there's a comment on the line of code containing the bug, saying that it must never ever be fixed.

→ At the same developer conference, Apple learned that there is one thing worse than not delivering what you promise — not delivering what you don't promise. An enigmatic space on the conference program indicated that two hours one evening would be given over to "Film". No one from Apple would comment on what the film would be, but the rumour mill was already running in earnest. Apple had provided computers for pre-production on the new Star Wars movie; Apple and Lucasfilm had collaborated on high-quality downloadable trailers; Steve Jobs knows George Lucas from way back when Pixar was part of Lucasfilm. Clearly Jobs had managed to swing a preview of "The Phantom Menace" for his loyal developers a week before its official US opening, right? Apple people certainly made no attempt to deny that this was the case, although they also wouldn't confirm what the film actually was. The main conference hall was filled to the rafters when the first frames of "Starship Troopers" hit the screen, and was almost empty by the time the opening credits finished — although you could barely hear the music over the exodus of grumbling programmers.

→ Their reflexes may be a little slow, but one section of the US Government has issued a suitably panicky knee-jerk reaction to the impending Y2K disaster. Robert Kripowicz, of the Department of Energy, has issued a warning to US householders that computers at petroleum suppliers may shut down on New Year's Day (because they think it's 1900 — before they were created — and won't be able to cope with the existential angst), blocking supplies of oil for heating homes and causing people to freeze to death.

This man is John Knoll, visual effects supervisor on Star Wars: Episode I. As a Mac developer (he co-wrote Photoshop), he spoke at Apple's developer conference. And that's as close as attendees got to seeing a preview of "The Phantom Menace"

Backbytes

Dilbert Competition

Dilbert fans get ready for some laughs. We've just had word that later this year Network Ten will screen DILBERT: the animated television series.

Yes, our favourite cubicle-dweller is making his move to the small screen along with his pointy-headed boss and co-workers Wally and Alice. Daniel Stern, who provided the adult voice of Kevin Arnold in *The Wonder Years*, stars as Dilbert, while Alice is played by *Suddenly Susan* star Kathy Griffin.

To celebrate, we have two Dilbert prize packs (pictured) to give away. Just tell us in 25 words or less why you have the least exciting job in the world.

Send your entry to Dilbert Competition, PC World, PO Box 295, St Leonards NSW 1590 or e-mail it to pcworld@idg.com.au. Don't forget to include your name and a contact phone number.

The competition closes July 26th, 1999. Entries will be judged on July 27th, 1999 by the editor and publisher of PC World. The winners will be notified by phone and their names published in PC World, September 1999.

TIMELY WINNERS

Response to last month's "kwyjibo" competition was quite impressive, with several dozen entries vying for highly fashionable Trend Micro wristwatches. The correct answer, as revealed in Simpsons episode 7G02: "Bart The Genius", is that a kwyjibo is "a big, dumb, balding North American ape, with no chin". In the episode, Marge adds "and a short temper", but since that's not part of Bart's definition we didn't count it as essential. You did, however, need the "no chin" part, and 15 entries remembered that detail. Congratulations for an unhealthy obsession with TV go to Mitch Brown, Conrad Russo, Nik Bencsik, Bryan Reilly, Mark Chew, Darren French, James King, Matthew Cartwright, Terry Bradford, Eric Milliken, Nic Benson, Tony Riches, Stephen McNamara, Anthony Ellis and Stephen Tang. I wish we could give you all a prize, but we can't so what can you do.

Backbytes' patented random entry picker thingy decided that the coveted watches should be awarded to Darren French and Eric Milliken — your prizes are on their way.

He recommends buying supplies of oil well ahead of the crisis, and also recommends that suppliers such as petrol stations also stock up, ahead of inevitable price rises. Another official, meanwhile, issued a statement warning of the obvious danger of maintaining a stockpile of petroleum products, and said such a buying frenzy would necessarily disrupt supply, regardless of what the computers do. Clearly the final, insane phase of Y2K hysteria has begun. At least here in Australia, it'll be summer.

→ Over in the US, the Presidential elections are still a year and a half away, but the campaigns are already hitting stride. Most hopefuls have Web sites, on which they regularly post their policies, promises and other political detritus without the filter of the media. One such is Texas governor George Wallace Bush Junior (yeah, it's his son), whose site at www.gwbush.org is the subject of a very witty parody at www.gwbush.com. Bush is reportedly trying to have the rip-off site shut down, and has also bought up a number of domain names including bushbites.com and bushsux.org in an effort to head off further parodies at the pass. pcw

Apparently George Bush Jnr believes, "every city should have a telephone number 119 — for dyslexics who have an emergency"

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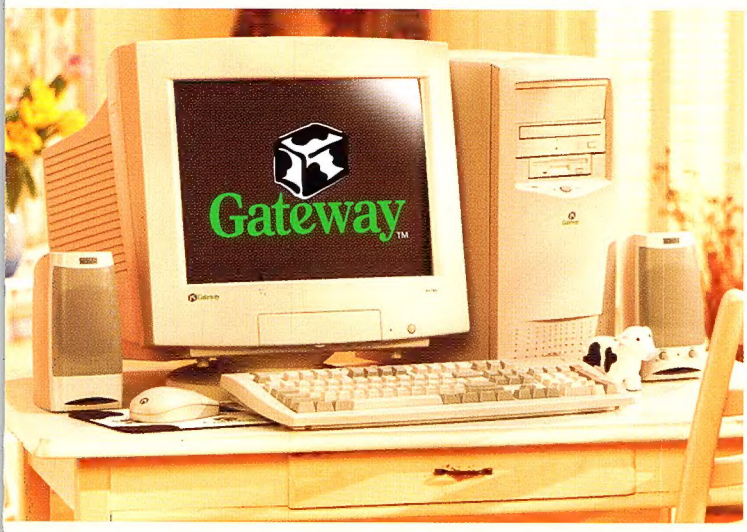

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